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Israel loan issue up in the air

JERUSALEM (JTA) —

In private and public pronouncements last week, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir seemed to deliver contradictory messages on Israel's willingness to freeze Jewish settlements in exchange for U.S. loan guarantees.

On the one hand, Shamir is believed to be quietly seeking a deal with the Bush administration in which Israel would reduce settlement activity in the territories in exchange for the desperately needed American loan guarantees.

Shamir is said to have conveyed that impression in several private conversations, including an hour-long talk last week with Shoshana Cardin, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, and its executive director, Malcolm Hoenlein.

Cardin and Hoenlein flew to Israel to brief Shamir on the climate in Washington and offer a frank appraisal of the chances that the loan guarantees would be forthcoming if Israel continues expanding Jewish settlement in the territories.

Their trip coincided roughly with the end of the 120-day waiting period during which Congress was asked by the White House to forego consideration of Israel's request for the guarantees.

But in a speech to 300 Jewish journalists here last week, Shamir said the United States should "forget about" a freeze on settlements.

Shamir claimed Washington had already decided to grant Israel important loan guarantees for housing for Soviet immigrants.

The Prime Minister was reacting to a proposal last Friday from U.S. Secretary of State James Baker that Israel stop building homes in the West bank and Gaza Strip to gain $10 billion in loan guarantees.

However, the offer apparently would allow Israel to complete housing units it has already begun.

Shamir responded: "To avoid any misunderstandings, Israel and those people who represent Israel are not talking about any freeze on settlements. Please forget about it."

He later said on Israeli television that he had a tentative agreement with the United States to provide loan guarantees.

Israeli Health Minister Ehud Olmert said after Sunday's cabinet meeting that the terms of the loan guarantee "actually allow Israel to continue building new houses within the program that has been approved."

With the 120-day moratorium on the guarantees about to expire, Israel's ambassador to Washington, Zalman Shoval, was scheduled to meet with Baker to present Israel's case for the loan guarantees as convincingly as possible.

Baker is expected to lay down stringent conditions and possibly offer to guarantee smaller amounts than Israel is asking for.

The United States may also demand from Israel firm commitments to make various economic reforms.

But Hoenlein believes both countries want to reach an accord that would enable the administration to recommend underwriting the loans.

"Both governments are facing elections this year," and "neither wants confrontation," he told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

High-placed Israeli sources say the prime minister may be prepared to slow settlement-building in practice without disavowing it in principle or declaring a change of policy.

"We cannot make concessions on the principle of settlement in Eretz Israel," Defence Minister Moshe Arens said, but he left open the question of whether the government is prepared to back off in practice.

Hoenlein said negotiations to reach an understanding between Jerusalem and Washington have already begun at a discreet diplomatic level.

But he stressed the final decision would rest with U.S. President George Bush, who on this issue seems to have bipartisan congressional support. It is highly unlikely Congress would approve the loan guarantees without a prior agreement

[Cont'd. on page 9]

MORNING PRAYERS

Settlers say their morning prayers at the new settlement of Dolav, established following a recent bus attack near Ramallah. [IPPA photo]

Shamir gets support from Tsomet party

JERUSALEM (JTA) —

The Likud government, deprived of its parliamentary majority, apparently has been saved from the ignominy of being toppled by a Labor-sponsored no-confidence motion.

The right-wing Tsomet party, which bolted Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's coalition last month, decided last Thursday that it would not support the no-confidence measure, which the Knesset was scheduled to vote on Monday.

With Tsomet's two-man faction behind it, the government can muster 61 votes in the 120-member Knesset, just enough to survive.

Unlike Tehiya and Moledet, the far-right parties that left the coalition for ideological reasons, Tsomet quit because Likud refused to allow its Knesset faction a free vote on an upcoming electoral reform bill, thereby ensuring its defeat.

But Tsomet's leader, former Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan, who supports reform, had second thoughts after Likud hinted it might introduce the measure it has so far blocked in committee.

Likud insists, however, that if adopted, the reform law must not take effect before the 1996 Knesset elections. The bill provides for election of the prime minister by popular ballot, separate from the party lists. Likud fears this would open the way for a charismatic Laborite or other non-Likud prime minister.

In any event, Tsomet decided not to help Labor overthrow the Likud regime and dictate when elections will be held.

Labor Party Secretary-General Micha Harish said that Labor would propose an election date as soon as it achieves the necessary majority in the Knesset.

Tsomet's decision does not mean it will rejoin the coalition, though that option is being considered by the tiny party.

Unless it does, Shamir intends to call early elections himself. But he is not expected to decide the timing until the fate of Israel's request for U.S. loan guarantees to resettle immigrants is clear.

Meanwhile, Housing Minister Ariel Sharon said again that he would challenge Shamir for leadership of Likud and the office of prime minister. Likud is scheduled to nominate its candidate on Feb. 10.

McDougall leads Moscow delegation

OTTAWA —

External Affairs Minister Barbara McDougall was in Moscow this week to lead Canada's delegation to the multilateral round of the Middle East peace talks.

The talks were slated for Jan. 28 and 29.

Joining McDougall was Michael Bell, Canada's ambassador to Israel, whose term expires Feb. 1.

In a statement earlier this month, McDougall's office explained that the multilateral round of talks between Israel and the Arab partners would deal with a "wide variety of regional questions whose solutions require concerted international efforts.

"Canada hopes that the multilateral talks will help the parties in the region realize the considerable benefits to be gained from future co-operation. We believe that this, in turn, can have a beneficial effect on the negotiations between the parties directly involved."

Canada intends to make a "constructive contribution to the process," the statement said.

Barbara McDougall

In November, an External Affairs department spokesman told *The CJN* that Canada's role in the multilateral round of talks will be limited to arms control and verification, as well as water rights and water management.

IDF clashes with guerrillas

TEL AVIV (JTA) —

An Israeli Defence Force soldier was killed and another wounded early Sunday morning in a clash with Hezbollah guerrillas in the southern Lebanon security zone.

The dead soldier was identified as 1st Sgt. Eliahu Ofer, 20, of Beersheba.

Three guerrillas were killed in the skirmish, which began when an IDF patrol encountered the Hezbollah group in the western end of the security zone and opened fire.

Intense activity by the IDF and its allied South Lebanon Army was reported north of the security zone late Saturday night. Reports from the area spoke of artillery fire and helicopter flights throughout the night.

In an unrelated development, the Beirut-controlled Lebanese regular army continued to replace contingents of the United Nations peacekeeping force that has been deployed in southern Lebanon since 1978.

A company of 150 Ghanaian soldiers attached to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon pulled out of seven villages north of the security zone and east of Tyre.

Lebanese regulars moved in with trucks and armored personnel carriers Saturday. The change of military control was accomplished quietly, without the fanfare and public celebrations that accompanied previous takeovers by the Lebanese regulars.

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Canada

Israeli-Canadian violist a musical ambassador

By
PAULA CITRON

TORONTO —

Considering Rivka Golani plays a relatively obscure concert instrument, the 45-year-old Israeli-Canadian violist is one of the busiest performing artists in the world.

In February, she will be crisscrossing the country, giving concerts in Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver.

Much of the music she'll be playing is original, composed by Canadians especially commisioned for her talents. She will also be squeezing in time to make several recordings — and all this within a compressed two week period.

This intense musical life is routine for Golani. May finds her back in Canada recording discs and giving live performances, but the concert trail will also take her to London, Paris, Cologne, Copenhagen and several cities in Holland.

The CJN caught up with Golani in Toronto last November when she was briefly in town as a juror for the Toronto Women's Club Music Competition. The writer's first question was the most obvious: Given the lack of standard viola repertoire, how does Golani stay so busy?

"It's different for me than for a violinist or a pianist," says the artist. "My colleagues decide what rep they will work on for the year based on what they are asked to perform. Since the viola has not been historically a popular solo instrument for composers, it's not as attractive to programmers. This means I can't be a full-time soloist without contemporary music. That's why I've virtually had to create my own repertoire and 130 pieces have been written for me."

Golani is also a highly acclaimed visual artist, and a recent phenomenon has been to integrate her two talents into a performance setting. For example, to celebrate the 125th year of Canadian Confederation in 1992, Winnipeg's composer Robert Turner is creating a concerto for her inspired by seven Canadian poems.

Golani will not only play the concerto, she will paint each of the poems, and these images will be put on slides to be screened during the performance. The paintings themselves will be on display in the foyers of the concert halls where the concerto is performed.

In fact, Golani's paintings, which she describes as "abstracts of wild color" have inspired other collaborations. Composers including Germany's Franz Hummel, Switzerland's Heinz Holliger and Japan's Jorji Yuasa have all created works based on her art.

For the 1992 Exeter Festival in England, Golani and London-based artist Israel Zohar, are jointly painting a huge canvas to commemorate the Holocaust which will be part of an exhibit entitled *Europe, Past and Future*. The painting will then be

Rivka Golani

auctioned off with half the proceeds going to the restoration fund for Exeter Cathedral. Golani is also a featured performing artist at the festival.

"The Holocaust has a lot to do with my art," says Golani. "In fact, the first exhibit I ever did was influenced by my aunt, an Auschwitz survivor, who came to live with us. I painted pictures based on stories of what she went through. Israel is made up of people who came to build a country or to find a place to live after chaos. It is a subject very close to me."

Nonetheless, although Golani has been an exhibited painter since her student days, she declares that first and foremost, she is a violist.

"I love the instrument; it's a human sound. The viola may be very technically difficult to play but it is the most feeling of the string instruments. You can make it laugh or cry. Violins are too high and cellos are too low. There is much more repertoire for the violin because it is more attractive to composers. It's a smaller instrument so you can play it with more speed, producing a more obvious brilliance of technique.

"On the other hand, you have to work very hard to make virtuoso technique stand out on a viola. That's why there are probably only five world class full-time soloists on the international concert circuit."

Golani sees herself one day taking a hand at composing; she already has musical ideas percolating through her brain. "I've worked with so many contemporary composers that I put my stamp on a piece. With a new work you correct, you help rewrite, you give advice. It's only a matter of time until this experience will lead to my own creation. I already have some ideas about a viola conerto with orchestra."

When Golani looks back on her career, she's bemused by how she became a solo artist. "I never went for fame; it just happened. When I came to Toronto, I was a freelance violist. I played in a lot of chamber groups and worked with many contemporary composers. Oboeist/composer Heinz Holliger was doing a concert in

[Cont'd. on page 25]

World indifference cited as leading to the Holocaust

By
PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

The indifference of world governments and the absence of a Jewish state were key factors contributing to the mass murder of European Jews, a community meeting commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Wannsee conference was told last week.

It was on Jan. 20, 1942, in a villa in the Berlin suburb of Wannsee that 15 "intellectual bureaucrats," eight of them with doctorates, devised "the blueprint for the Final Solution" in an 85 minute meeting, said Prof. Irwin Cotler.

Speaking to about 700 people at the Adath Israel Synagogue, Cotler said all those present at Wannsee, including high government and Nazi party officials, already knew of the murder of 33,000 Jews at Babi Yar and of 11,000 in Kovno. They also knew that the ship, Struma, which was packed with 769 Jewish refugees, was denied entry into Palestine by British mandate authorities and into Turkey by the government of that state, he said. (The ship subsequently sank in the Black Sea. Only one person survived.)

Adolf Eichmann, who headed the Nazi office charged with implementing the genocide, testified later that the officials at Wannsee believed that even if Germany lost the war, it would be applauded for killing the Jews.

The Struma serves as a metaphor and a message of the crime of indifference, Cotler said. Had Israel existed in 1942, there would have been no Babi Yar and no Struma. Israel presents "the antidote to Jewish powerlessness" and "the protective arm of the Jewish people," Cotler stated.

Cotler, recently appointed an officer of the Order of Canada, said the Holocaust shows that individual Jews must remain vigilant in fighting for human rights and the world community must refuse to appease dictators like Iraq's Saddam Hussein.

He applauded Canadian courts for ruling against the incitement of racial hatred, recognizing that the road to gas chambers and ovens began with words of degradation and incitement. Cotler called for continued prosecutions of Nazi war criminals and the opposition to Holocaust deniers, who seek to vindicate old Nazis and encourage new ones.

Irwin Cotler says Jews must remain vigilant in fighting for human rights.

Cotler's address was preceded by remarks by survivor Gerda Frieberg, chairman of the evening commemoration, who recalled a holiday trip to Wannsee as a girl in 1932. The subsequent deportations of the Jews of Berlin to Riga and Auschwitz and their murders there erased any fond memories of Wannsee she had, Frieberg said. "They took my family, they took my people, they took years of my life," she said.

Brief remarks were also presented by Elaine Ziemba, Ontario minister of citizenship responsible for race relations, and by Rabbi Erwin Schild.

Among the dignitaries present were MPs Bill Attewell and Robert Kaplan, Canadian Jewish Congress president Les Scheininger, Roland Fournes, consul general of Germany, Andrej Brzozowski, consul general of Poland and Walter Leuchs, deputy consul of Germany.

German chancellor Helmut Kohl, in a news release issued by the German Embassay in Ottawa, notes that the Wannsee villa has been converted into a memorial for those who died.

"Those innocent people who lost their lives and those few who survived the horror are a constant reminder that the inalienable dignity of man must always be the yardstick of our actions," Kohl stated. "Here in Germany in particular, the past must never be forgotten. It is a heavy burden. . . We must remember the past: we owe it above all to the victims, but also to our children and grandchildren. It is to them that we must pass on the awareness that to live in peace and freedom is anything but a matter of course."

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Vancouver Federation involved with strong community, Israel

By
MAURICE LUCOW

VANCOUVER —

After five years of operation, the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver has become the number one vehicle for the support of humanitarian services in Israel, as well as the central organization of the Greater Vancouver Jewish community, says Federation president Ted Zacks.

Zacks, who was re-elected president at the Dec. 9 annual meeting, said that when Federation was launched in 1987, there was concern that increased attention to local needs would erode the community's traditional commitment to Israel, but the results of the past campaigns show there is no need for such a concern.

Federation was formed as a result of an amalgamation of the Jewish Community Fund and Council and the United Jewish Appeal of British Columbia.

He reported that while the current campaign is not yet complete, it is running 18 percent ahead of last year and the present total is $3.6 million, with the final figure expected to reach $4.3 million, exclusive of Operation Exodus.

Zacks noted the great expansion of local Jewish facilities in the past five years and the increase in the social planning process.

He said that in 1987, the economy was booming and Vancouver was experiencing an "unprecedented influx" of newcomers. The Jewish community was "barely aware of the extensive demographic changes it was undergoing. We had little idea of how many Jews we were, how old we were, how many children we had, or where we lived."

Zacks said there was no communal instrument to assess emerging needs, design strategies to address them, or any plan to fund needed programs. Through its social planning activities Federation is now dealing with such problems as the city's burgeoning suburbs, the growing population of seniors, the community of singles, the Jewish disabled, and the underprivileged.

Zacks quoted from the Torah which says there are a number of things for which there is no limit in quantity and for which there is no concept of excess. "They include providing for the poor, the giving of charity, honoring our parents, hospitality for those who enter our midst, supporting religious institutions, bringing peace among men and, above all, the study of Torah.

"It is from these deepest roots of our tradition that the Federation draws its inspiration and motivation," Zacks said. "The only limits set are those we set ourselves in our commitment to our collective future."

Zacks said the community must cope also with the problem of whether it has a responsibility to provide national leadership "at the same time that we struggle to create a cadre of leadership at home."

As part of the planning for the future, Federation has set up an endowment fund because when it started, there was "not a nickel in the bank to save for a rainy day or encourage the continued development of innovative institutions."

Now, according to the report of Endowment Fund chairman Morley Koffman, the fund, established in 1988 has a balance (as of Aug. 31) of $1,212,847. Income from the fund will be available for distribution to support worthy projects, Koffman said.

Fran Goldberg, chairman of the long range social planning committee, said that as a result of a survey, it was determined that 48 percent of children born to intermarried couples are being raised as Jews but the Jewish community must enhance the Jewish experiences of the major part of its population and devote less time to the unaffiliated, as "there are more and more Jews who are less Jewish." She said a marriage support group has been set up, affiliated with Beth Israel Synagogue, to "enrich the Jewish component in mixed marriages."

Irma Zack, who chairs the Shalom Vancouver service, said this group had contact with an average of 200 newcomers per month during the summer. Shalom Vancouver "breaks through the initial isolation of bewildered newcomers," and provides them with information about Jewish community organization and institutions.

Requests for service have come from all parts of the western world — France, Belgium, Switzerland, Israel, the United States and Canada, as well as from the local community. The service is supported by Federation along with the Jewish Community Centre, B'nai Brith Women, National Council of Jewish Women and the Seniors Advisory Council.

Reporting for the women's division, Sheila Anzarut said her group will provide local events in 1992 to mark the 500th anniversary of the expulsion of Jews from Spain. This is being undertaken with the International Committee for Sepharad '92, formed recently in New York.

The annual meeting honored Cathy Bregman with the 1991 Young Leadership Award, given annually to volunteers "who exemplify leadership potential through significant commitment and service to one or more of our local Jewish organizations."

Other officers elected were Peter Oreck, vice-president of financial resources; Malcolm Weinstein, vice-president, administration; Rosalind Karby, vice-president, leadership development; Ron Rozen, vice-president planning, budgeting and allocations; Trudy Pekarsky, vice-president, community relations.

Steve Drysdale is executive director of the Federation.

Ukrainian cemetery's care is sought by Victoria Jew

VICTORIA —

Jack Gardner, a prominent member of the Victoria Jewish community, has written to the mayor and council of his home town, Sambor, in Ukraine, asking that a Jewish cemetery there be fenced off and head stones replaced. The letter was sent Jan. 12.

Gardner says that 1,200 Jews are buried in the cemetery. They were murdered when the Nazis controlled the city. The entire Jewish community and Jewish population were destroyed between 1941 and 1943, he points out, and when he visited Sambor in 1974 he found that "the city was not taking care of our cemetery."

When Sambor was liberated in 1944 by the Red Army, the few Jewish people who survived the Holocaust returned. The handful of survivors fenced off the mass grave of the Nazi victims and erected a headstone in Hebrew. But when Gardner returned there in 1974 he found that the headstone remained, but had been badly damaged. He enclosed a picture he took with his letter.

Since then, he says, "it became known to me that the cemetery was destroyed but the mass grave remained and the headstone with Hebrew lettering was removed and replaced with a plaque which reads: 'Here are buried Soviet citizens murdered by the German occupiers in the years 1941-1944.' No mention is made that the victims were Jewish."

In another letter to Leonid Kravchuk, president of the Ukrainian Republic, sent at the end of December, Gardner asks the Ukrainian government and Ukrainian people of the city "to repent for the collaboration of our Ukrainian neighbors with the German Nazi occupiers in murdering the Jewish population between 1941 and 1944." Gardner says Jews lived in and helped build the city since the 14th century.

Gardner wants Ukraine to return all Jewish buildings and real estate that were once owned by Jews so they can be sold off and the proceeds used to build a memorial in Jerusalem. He asks also that citizens of Sambor who have religious books, such as the Talmud, Torahs, Torah artifacts and religious artifacts taken from the synagogues return them to the survivors so they can be placed in the Museum of the Diaspora in Tel Aviv.

Gardner gave *The CJN* a history of Sambor and Stari-Sambor which shows that the Jewish population in 1935 was 25,000, almost 30 percent of the total. Poles made up about 54 percent and Russians the balance.

Sambor was under Austrian rule from 1772 to 1914. In mid-September of 1914, the Russian army chased out the Austrians and held it until October of 1918 when the city was occupied by the Ukrainians and the government and all institutions were transferred to them. The next year, the Ukrainian army left the city and the Polish army took over.

Sambor was under Polish rule up to the outbreak of World War II, and in July of 1941 it was conquered by the Nazis. The Soviets captured it in August of 1944 and it was annexed by the Soviet Union and became part of Ukraine.

The history book reports that the Germans began to exterminate Jews as early as 1939 but were halted by the Russians. But when they occupied the city again in 1941 the Germans gave the Ukrainians a free hand for 24 hours "to riot against the Jews and do with them as they wished."

The Ukrainians went on a spree and this was followed up over the years by mass killings and deportations of the Jews by the Nazis.

Most of the mass actions were carried out by the Nazis, with the cooperation of the Ukrainians, on Jewish holidays — Yom Kippur, Passover and Shavuot. The city was declared "judenrein" just after Shavuot of 1943.

Gardner was able to survive the genocide because he was drafted into the Soviet Red Army in 1939 and didn't return to Sambor until it was liberated in 1944. He found that his parents, two sisters and their husbands and his aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews were all killed. All perished but him. — M.L.

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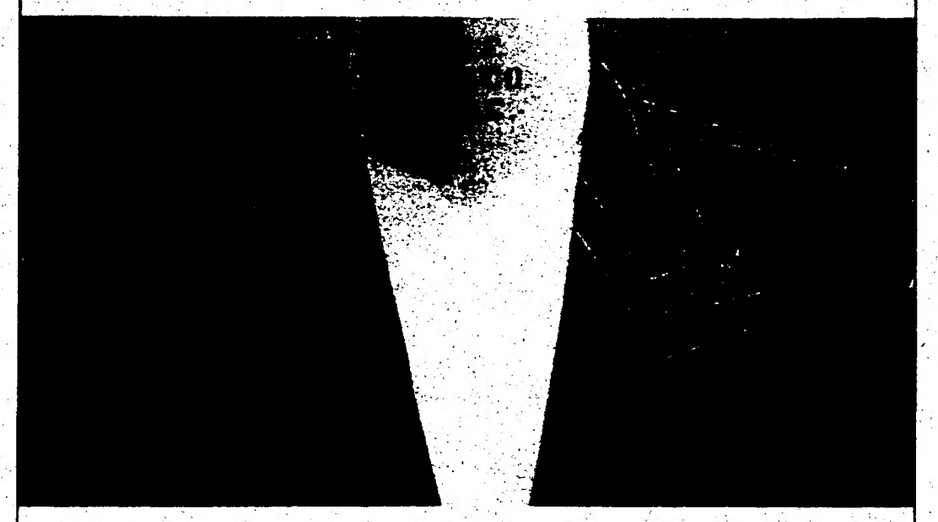

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Canada

Jewish paper provides glimpse of Prairie life

By
DAVID LAZARUS

MONTREAL —
A first issue of a previously unknown early 20th century Canadian monthly for Jews of the Prairies has some special historical signficance, says a Montreal researcher.

The only surviving copy of the April, 1914 Calgary-based publication, called the *Canadian Western Jewish Times*, is in English only and provides an unprecedented glimpse into the life and thinking of Prairie Jews struggling to maintain their faith while integrating into Canadian life, said Eiran Harris, an amateur Montreal archivist.

The fact that the short-lived publication (it did not appear a second time) was in English, added Harris, suggests that the failed monthly was both intended to "anglify" Jews and to be read by Christians to help them glean a better understanding of the Jews living among them.

Publication found in 1974

"No one knew of the *Times*' existence or importance," said Harris, who was sent a photocopy by Douglas Cass, assistant chief archivist at Calgary's Glenbow Museum, where the obscure publication was found among material donated in 1974 by Violet Wener. "But it is important because it provides a window for a certain type of thinking that existed at the time."

The *Times*, Harris said, was ambitious — perhaps too ambitious, given its quick demise — and a decided departure from other Jewish publications of the day to which Prairie Jews had access.

For one thing, Harris points out, it was Canadian Jewry's first Prairie-based Jewish publication. It was also Canadian Jewry's first monthly ever and ran a healthy 32-pages.

Prairie Jews at the time, Harris said, subscribed mostly to New York Yiddish papers because they had the most up-to-date international news. Other Canadian Jewish publications they could receive by mail in 1914 included two Winnipeg-based weeklies, *The Israelite* and *Yiddish Lebn*, Toronto's *Hebrew Journal*, and Montreal's *Canadian Jewish Chronicle*.

By contrast, *The Canadian Jewish Western Times* was, however briefly, the first publication geared specifically for Jews in the Prairies, many of whom were farmers. Calgary would not see another Jewish periodical again until the *Calgary Jewish Chronicle* weekly appeared in 1962.

The *Times*, its ambition again apparent, also promised to carry local news from Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Moose Jaw, Regina and Winnipeg, and foreign news from Russia, Palestine, Germany, France, England and the United States.

The philosophy behind the monthly is clear from the bold words in this volume, written in the typically formal journalistic style of the day.

The paper heralds itself as a "Jewish monthly devoted to Jewish interests and Jewish advancement."

"We present herewith for your approval," wrote editor-in-chief J.B. (Jacob Bell) Barron, a prominent lawyer and businessman originally from Winnipeg, "the results of our initial efforts to establish here in Western Canada, the Last Great West, a journal which we propose... to devote to the cause, interests and advancement of all Jews in general and the Jews of our Canadian West in particular."

One of the main goals of the paper, as Barron wrote, was to help bring a sense of community to the scattered Jewish enclaves across the Prairies.

But Harris said the *Times* is most fascinating in the way it advocates, in true Canadian "cultural mosaic" fashion ahead of its time, that Jews become good Canadian citizens while preserving their heritage. "It was meant to integrate the Jews, but not to assimilate them," Harris said.

Personal account of travails

The paper was so "integrationist," in fact, that it went out of its way to reassure Christians, with more than a touch of obsequiousness, that although it may be approving "clannishness and racial and religious consciousness," it will only exist until Jews achieve true equality in Canada.

The first-and-last *Times* also contained a detailed, personal account of the travails faced by 16 Montreal Jews who established the first Jewish settlement in the West in 1905 — an event mentioned only briefly in Louis Rosenberg's 1939 *The Jews of Canada*.

Harris said although no one is likely to ever know for certain why *The Canadian Western Jewish News* failed, it was forgotten almost as quickly as it started.

No mention of it is made in Barron's obituary nor in a 1973 article on Abraham Isaac Shumiatcher, a Calgary journalist, teacher, interpreter, businessman and lawyer who used the name A.I. Smith in the *Times* and was described as its "foreign editor."

Even Shumiatcher's entry in the 1933 Prominent Jews of Canada, probably written by himself, lists only a Calgary "Jewish monthly" he was involved with, a possible indication that he preferred that the failed undertaking be forgotten.

The Canadian Western Jewish Times

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APRIL, 1914

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Hebrew in Palestine

A Retrospect and a Moral
By the Rev. Dr. B. H. Rosengard

A Poem and a Poet
By Rabbi Emil G. Hirsch

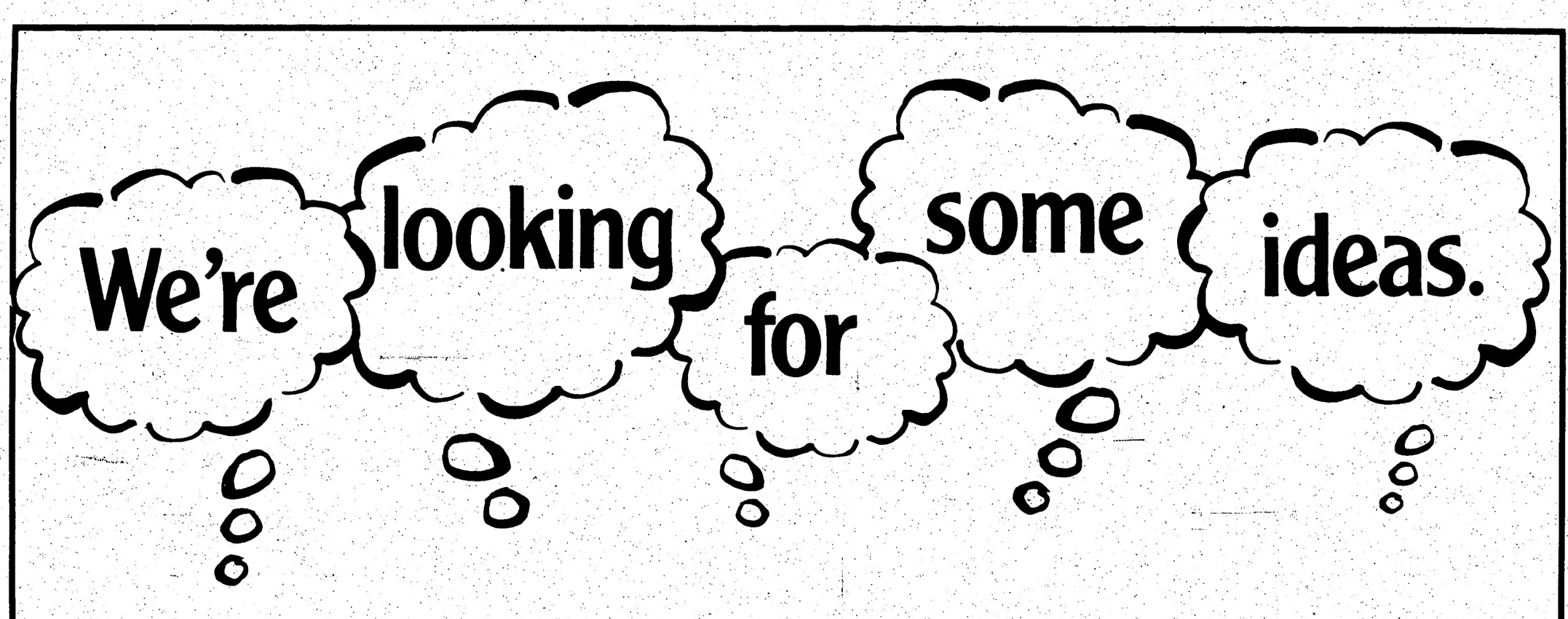
A Century of Jewish History in England

LOCAL NEWS from Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Moose Jaw, Regina, Winnipeg.

FOREIGN NEWS from Russia, Palestine, Germany, France, England, United States.

Vol. I. No. 1. Nisan—5674

The front page of the Canadian Western Jewish Times, which lasted one issue.



They can be big. Or they can be small. We welcome any idea you can think of for celebrating Canada's 125th anniversary in 1992.

A group called Canada 125 has been set up to help put your ideas into action all year long. Your event or activity could be local, regional or nation-wide. It should be non-partisan and apolitical, and should reflect one or more of the following themes:

1. The freedom, opportunity and personal security we enjoy as citizens; 2. a common concern for the environment; 3. the desire to help one another; 4. our wish to get to know one another better; 5. our many achievements as Canadians.

While Canada 125 does not offer financial support for community events, we encourage partnerships between local business and community organizations to help fund and organize those events. We are communicating with the corporate sector in order to facilitate partnerships that can be a positive legacy for the future.

We also want to learn about the events and activities you plan for your community so that we can share your ideas and experience with other Canadians.

Perhaps you already have or are planning an activity that fits the Canada 125 objectives. We would like your activity to become part of the program of Canada 125 events and projects that will be taking place across the country in 1992.

As the year unfolds, you'll be hearing more about how you can participate.

The future begins with you.

CJC maintains watch

By
DAVID LAZARUS

MONTREAL —
Jewish groups say that they will keep a close watch on how the federal Justice Department handles the case of a Montreal-based computer "bulletin board" containing anti-Semitic messages and other hate propaganda.

What appears to be at central issue in the case — involving bulletins accessible to anyone owning a personal computer with a telephone modem hookup — is whether such communications constitute private conversation or public dissemination.

If the former, the communications are almost certainly not subject to legal sanction.

But if they are public — in the sense of being theoretically accessible to anyone — they could conceivably be found to be breaking a section of the Canadian Human Rights Act and even to be criminally culpable of spreading hate propaganda.

The Gazette reported last week that the case involves a Montreal man connected with the "Ulrich's Renegade Press Service Party," or "Urps," described as a wing of a local racist group called the Canadian National Party.

The man, unidentified in the story, reportedly uses a free Montreal computer message service — Nirvana — to post lengthy "articles" with anti-Jewish and anti-black messages.

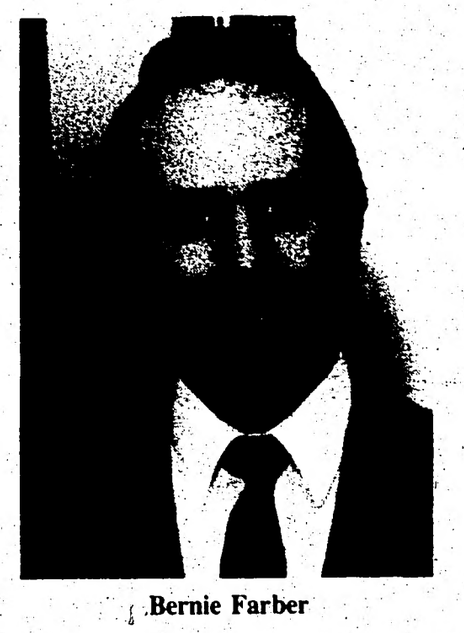
Two of the articles cited were *The Jewish Invasion* and *White Man, Think Again.*

The Gazette cited a second message service that has stopped carrying Urps.

Martin Theriault, co-ordinator of the Canadian Centre on Racism and Prejudice, registered a complaint with the federal Justice Department, apparently to open the door for criminal prosecution under federal law that bans propagating hate.

But speaking to *The CJN*, Jewish groups said the criminal court system is not necessarily the most expeditious method to shut down such operations.

According to Ian Kagedan, director in Ottawa of government relation for B'nai Brith Canada, the Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC) has been the most useful way to deal with hate material disseminated electronically through video games or through hate message telephone answering machine lines.



Bernie Farber

Kagedan and Bernie Farber, the associate national community relations director for Canadian Jewish Congress, said the CHRC has been particularly effective in closing down a number of racist phone lines in Canada, by enforcing Section 13a of the Canadian Human Rights Act, which prohibits telephonic transmission of material promoting hatred or contempt.

Farber said the commission has not yet addressed the specific issue of whether computer bulletin board messages, carried by phone line, also fall under Section 13a, because that form of communication has not come up before the commission.

But Farber said Canadian Jewish Congress will consider filing a complaint agianst Urps if the commission decides it does come under 13a.

Kagedan, for one, said he would be "stunned" if the CHRC did not think Section 13a applied.

In Kagedan's view, Theriault probably chose the least efficient way to stop the Urps line, considering the time and trouble involved in launching a criminal action, which would require the approval of Gil Remillard, Quebec's attorney-general, and then proof in court that Urps' intent was to incite hatred.

Name Game

There is a story in almost every Jewish surname and Toronto lawyer FRED M. CATZMAN has been researching their origins over the past few years. Mr. Catzman reports on his research in The CJN.

WETSTEIN

My friend Label Wetstein is a master "plaitze" giver — Yiddish for steam bath masseur. He believes that his name means wet stone, a concrete concept. I can find no authoritative analysis of the name, although I discern a resemblance to the English word Whetstone — a stone which was used to sharpen metal cutters like knives, swords and axes.

While the use of "whet" appears to have dried out, you find it in association with appetite so that whetting your appetite connotes sharpening by the stimulation of your salivary glands.

KRONIK — KRONGOLD — KRANGLE

Kron is the German word for crown. From it is derived surnames like Kronik, Kroneneberg (Crown Hill) and Krongold (gold crown). Krangle appears to be a contraction of Krongold.

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Israeli emigration increases

MONTREAL —
Israeli immigration to Canada increased steadily through the 1980s, according to statistics just published by Immigration Canada.

The statistics report shows that 1,740 persons whose country of last permanent residence was Israel landed in 1989. The figure in 1983 was about a third of that — 584.

A major upsurge began in 1986 when 1,200 people arrived from Israel. The following years saw 1,461 and 1,435 in 1987 and 1988, respectively.

Of the 1,740 in 1989, the great majority are under 40 and there are a significant proportion of children in the group.

The intended destinations of the vast majority were Ontario (1,038) and Quebec (608).

Most came to Canada as independent immigrants (1,152), while 392 came under the family class, 110 under assisted relative class, 70 as entrepreneurs, 15 as self-employed and one as a refugee.

Largest classified occupation groups that year were: fabricating, assembling and repairing; natural sciences, engineering and mathematics; machining and related; and clerical and related. A total of 472 persons aged 18 and over entered as students.

The number of Israelis by birth emigrating to Canada was somewhat less: 1,296 in 1989, but slightly more by country of citizenship: 1,768.

בס"ד

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NOTICE OF PLENARY ASSEMBLY

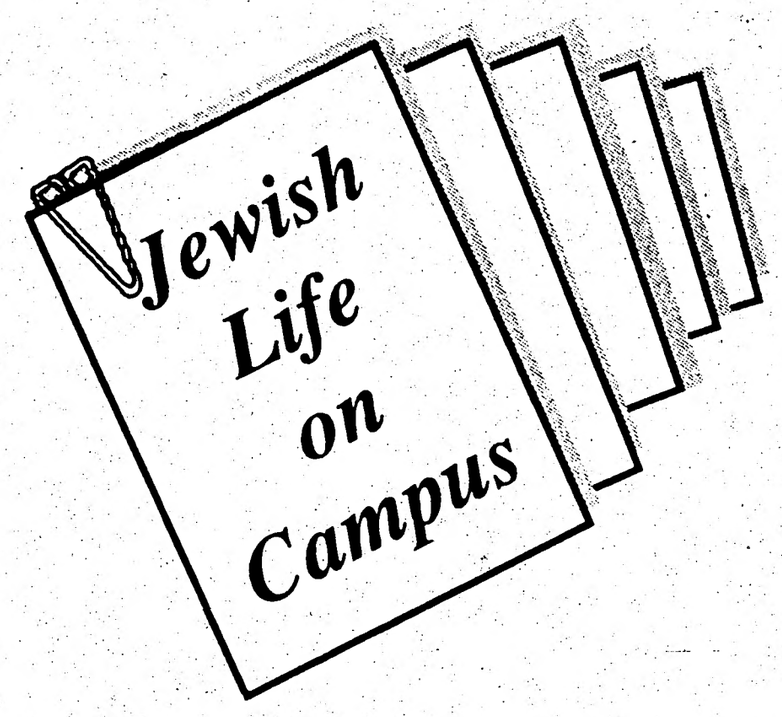
Please be advised that the Canadian Jewish Congress 23rd Triennial Plenary Assembly will be held in Toronto, Ontario, at the Regal Constellation Hotel, May 20 to 24, 1992.

The Plenary is the highest decision-making body within Canadian Jewish Congress.

For delegate information and complete registration package, please contact either the Plenary Office, 4600 Bathurst Street, Willowdale, Ontario, M2R 3V2, (416) 635-2883, fax (416) 635-1408; the National Office, 1590 Docteur Penfield Avenue, Montreal, Quebec, H3G 1C5, (514) 931-7531, fax: (514) 931-0548; or, after February 18, your regional CJC office.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

The Israel Government Tourist Office, Shalom K Tours and El Al Israel Airlines, recently hosted a luncheon to commemorate the mission of 800 people in the Western Ontario Region of the Pentecostal Assemblies Gathering in Jerusalem, the largest-ever Christian group to leave from North America to Israel, and to launch 1992 as the year of Pentecostal Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Pictured (from left) are Rev. Ray Priddle of the Emmanuel Bible College in Kitchener; Roberto Schliesser, DSM Ontario & Western Canada, El Al Israel Airlines; Yehuda Shen, director for Canada, Israel Government Tourist Office; Shalom Even, founder of Shalom K Tours; and Rev. Jim Cantelon of *100 Huntley Street.*



All's quiet on western front at Winnipeg campuses

By
MYRON LOVE

WINNIPEG —

All is relatively quiet this year on Winnipeg's campuses.

"Last year, with the Gulf War, we had hundreds of students coming forward," says Pamela Wolfe, a third-year chemistry student at the University of Manitoba who is the Network representative. "This year there doesn't seem to be many Jewish students around."

Karen Worb has the same observations. The Jewish Student Association JSA staff person for both the universities of Manitoba and Winnipeg reports the number of Jewish students active in the JSA in September, 1990, was double and triple the numbers the year before. This year there has been no such increase.

"We have about 400 students on our mailing list," says Worb. "We estimate that is about a third of the Jewish students on the campuses." She reports she may have up to 60 students coming through her office at the University of Manitoba some days. The University of Winnipeg office (the U of W is the smaller of the two universities), where she spends one day a week, is usually quiet.

Because Network has no membership lists, Wolfe notes it's hard to assess the Jewish student body. "We are a grassroots student activist movement," she says. "Thus, our programs and conferences are open to all Jewish students. The turnout depends on the program and the issues we are trying to highlight."

A Network conference on the October long weekend, for example, drew 35 students from across western Canada. The speakers included Sigmund Sobolewski, a Polish Catholic survivor of Auschwitz who is fighting to keep alive the memory of the Holocaust, Barry Bender from Yeshiva University and Rabbi Benji Jacobi from Toronto.

The JSA, which is supported by the Winnipeg Jewish community, runs a variety of programs throughout the university year including a floor hockey league and aerobics classes, speakers and a havdalah dinner in November.

Three years ago, a group of students formed a new Alpha Epsilon Pi Jewish fraternity. It was officially disbanded in the summer of 1990 after many of the original members had graduated and moved on.

"It's hard programming around the university schedule," says Wolfe. "You can't get very many people out during exam time."

University of Manitoba JSA students celebrated the anniversary of the Camp David Accord.

In the last part of our continuing series featuring Jewish life on university campuses across Canada, The CJN looks at the University of Saskatchewan and University of Manitoba.

Pictured at the airport before the 1989 National Network Convention in Israel are (from left) Daniel Gumprich, Jeff Stromberg, Lisa Singer, Joanne Golumbia and Michelle Gumprich.

JSA finds small is beautiful at U of Saskatchewan

By
FRANCES KRAFT

SASKATOON —

With 20 names on its membership list, the Jewish Students Association (JSA) at the University of Saskatchewan is probably the smallest viable Jewish student campus group in the country.

"You have to have 20 members to be registered as a campus club," JSA member Lisa Singer, a third-year Canadian history student, told *The CJN*. The group has been registered for the past two years, but "we have to scrounge for names," she admitted.

It's very easy to forget about your Judaism [in a small community], says Singer. When she entered a Jewish restaurant on a visit to Toronto in late December, she was struck by the contrast with her home town. Saskatoon was "inundated with Christmas," she said.

"We encourage [members] to explore their [Jewish] heritage," said Singer. Events such as Shabbat dinners and Chanukah-lighting have become an important part of programming. A game night held last year (Jewish Win, Lose or Draw) encouraged sharing of Jewish knowledge. "You have to be creative out here," said Singer.

Last year the JSA raised about $500 for Operation Exodus with a felafel stand for Ethnic Food and Culture Day at the university. The students brought the mix in from Winnipeg and made the felafels at the synagogue. "You can't buy felafel in Saskatoon. Nobody had ever seen it or tasted it," said Singer.

Other events have included an Israel table and a program with Moshe Ronen, chairman national executive, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, as speaker.

This year the group will be bringing in righteous gentile Sigmund Sobileski from Red Deer, Alberta, as a speaker. A bowlathon is planned to raise more money for Operation Exodus.

The JSA is completely student-run, with no official staff person as facilitator. Michelle Gumprich is president.

The JSA's history begins with a Hillel group which had "disappeared," leaving no Jewish student organization at the campus until about three years ago, when Shlomo Benaroch, a University of Saskatoon student originally from Manitoba, organized the revitalized JSA.

About half of the members are from the Saskatoon Jewish community, which numbers approximately 500 people, according to Danielle Rizhanovsky, JSA vice-president — internal. There is one synagogue (Conservative), and there is a B'nai Brith men's chapter, which has partially subsidized the students.

As small as the Saskatoon Jewish community is ("We know them all, and they know us," said Singer), the student community is that much smaller. Interdating is a given. "You either have to leave [if you want to date someone Jewish], or you [stay and] have no social life.

About half a dozen local students have left within the past couple of years to study for a year in Israel.

* * *

The Jewish Political Action Committee is a new Jewish students' group at the University of Manitoba. There is a five-student core including fourth-year student Steven London.

The strongly Zionist committee will focus on educating both Jewish and non-Jewish students about political issues concerning Israel.

Students walk in front of the administration building of the University of Saskatchewan.

CIS coup seen harmful for Jews

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —

An attempt today by hardline Communists to seize power from Russian president Boris Yeltsin would probably succeed and could spell doom for Jews, says the director of the only government-sanctioned human rights group in the former Soviet Union.

Dmitry Kalmanson told *The CJN* last week that if carried out today, a right-wing coup, similar to the failed attempt by hardliners last August, would be supported by the military and the majority of the populace.

Discontent with skyrocketing prices, scarce food and supplies and widespread confusion among the military in Russia and other republics could bring about the return of rigid Communists, who are promising food and order, warned Kalmanson, director of the Moscow-based Soviet-American Bureau on Human Rights.

Established in 1990, the bureau is the first jointly-run human rights outfit in the Commonwealth of Independent States. It is funded by private donations in the CIS and by money from the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews in New York.

With a staff of seven, including two Americans, the bureau advocates on behalf of political prisoners and long-term Refuseniks, and dispenses advice on immigration to the United States and Israel. Because the Soviet Union dissolved on Jan. 1, the organization's activities today are confined mainly to Russia, but plans are in the works to set up branch offices in the capitals of the other 14 republics.

Kalmanson, a Jew who himself was denied permission to emigrate in 1987 on grounds that his father-in-law knew state secrets, says the situation for Jews in the CIS is "extremely dangerous.

"An explosion could happen at any moment. The Jews are being blamed for everything: the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, the [August] coup, the break-up of the country and now, the high prices. And in the Muslim republics, it is very bad."

A successful coup could close the doors on Jewish emigration. As well, he says, the rise of several national patriotic movements, including Pamyat, the notorious anti-Semitic group, is tightening the screws for Jews.

With some one million Jews in the CIS holding invitations from Israel, why isn't there a mass exodus right now?

"Because that's the Russian mentality," sighs Kalmanson, 42. "People think, 'Let's wait. Maybe things will get better.' "

In its first year, the bureau advised about 12,000 people on matters of emigration. Kalmanson stresses the organization does not steer people to the United States or Israel, but it does point out that America accepts only first-degree relatives, imposes a yearly quota of 40,000 emigres and an application could take up to three years to process, while Israel will accept anyone who has an invitation.

The bureau also works on behalf of long-term Refuseniks. There are about 500 Refusenik families left in the CIS, concentrated mainly in Moscow, St. Petersburg and Kiev, in the Ukraine.

Kalmanson says almost all of them are being denied an exit visa due to alleged knowledge of state secrets. The state secret law will remain in force for another year, when new laws on emigration are scheduled to be enacted.

Kalmanson's organization has made a difference. It was the first human rights group ever to take part — alongside representatives of the Supreme Soviet and the KGB — in a special government commission that reviews Refuseniks' cases.

Of the 39 families brought to the commission's attention last November, 17 were released and the plight of the rest is under discussion.

In the meantime, Kalmanson still has to worry about ugly remnants of the old Soviet Union: passports of Jews are still stamped "Yivrei" (Jew).

Kalmanson was in Toronto and Montreal for meetings with community leaders. In Ottawa, he met with officials of the federal Immigration Department and with the Immigration and Refugee Board.

Ironically, Kalmanson has plans to leave Russia himself, in a year. When he does, he will follow in the footsteps of the bureau's two previous directors, both of whom now live in the United States.

Yugoslav Jews adapt to changes

By
PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

The political changes affecting Yugoslavia, including international recognition of Croatia and Slovenia, appear to be leading the country's Jewish community into forming separate national federations corresponding to the country's new borders.

The Jewish community council of Zagreb met recently and invited representatives of the eight other Croatian Jewish communities to establish a representative body for Croatian Jews, said Srdan Matic, executive vice-president of the Jewish Community of Zagreb.

The Zagreb community also proposed that the existing Federation of Jewish Communities of Yugoslavia be dissolved and replaced with a new regional, "supra-national" body to represent the joint interests of Yugoslav Jews, Matic said in a telephone interview from the Croatian capital.

David Albahari, the Belgrade-based president of the federation, said that a conference involving all Yugoslav Jewish communities will be held within two months to determine how they should react to political changes in the rapidly dissolving country.

"We will try to keep our unity," he said, "since this is a very small community and we are like one big family."

Approximately 6,000 Jews live in the six republics that made up Yugoslavia. Recently, the breakaway republics of Slovenia and Croatia, home to more than 2,000 Jews, were recognized as independent states by the European Community and Canada.

In other developments, Matic said the government of Croatia has given the Jewish community an interest-free loan of $1 million U.S. to rebuild the community centre/synagogue that was damaged by a bomb blast last August. The perpetrators remain unknown.

And a recent letter from Croat president Franjo Tudjman to Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress (WJC), gave assurances that Croatia is committed to democracy and minority rights. Tudjman, referring to a controversy arising out of his 1988 book, *Wastelands — Historical Truths*, denied the book was either "historical revisionism or anti-Semitism. As a former anti-fascist fighter and a committed democrat, I refute all intentions of the kind," he wrote.

In that book, Tudjman asserted that the Holocaust figure of six million was based on "emotional, biased testimony and exaggerated data," and that Israel has "conducted a genocidal policy toward the Palestinians [so] that they can rightly be defined as Judeo-Nazis."

A source in New York indicated that Jewish leadership there is dissatisfied with the letter. Tudjman does not condemn the crimes of the Ustashi and fails to address his own writings, the source stated.

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פון יענקל (דזשערי) קעין

וועג מען הערט וויפל און ווי אַזוי מענטשן ריידן וועגן שלום עליכמ׳ען, קען מען מיינען, אַז ער איז געווען אַ קיצלער; אַ שרייבער, וואָס האָט בלויז אינזינען געהאַט צו מאַכן מענטשן לאַכן. דאָס איז ווייט פונעם אמת.

אויף וויפל ליבשאַפט ער האָט אַרויסגעוויזן צו די „קליינע מענטשעלעך", איז ער נישט געווען איינער פון זיי. ער איז געווען אַ סאָפיסטיקאַט; ער איז געווען אַ ציוניסט; ער איז געווען אַ סאָציאַליסט; ער איז געווען אַ שפילער אויף דער קיעווער בערזע; ער איז געווען אַ פריינד פון מאַקסים גאָרקי. ער האָט פאַרשטאַנען די ווירקונג פון אידעאַלאָגישן און סאָציאַלאָגישן אויפברויז אין די צאַרישע לענדער אויף זיינע יידן. איך באַטראַכט שלום עליכמ׳ען איבערהויפט נישט ווי דעם הומאָריסט, נאָר ווי דעם שרייבער וועגן אָפּפרעמדונג — אָפּפרעמדונג פון קולטור, רעליגיע, שפראַך, לאַנד — קינדער אָפּפרעמדונג פון זייערע עלטערן, אָפּפרעמדונג פון טראַדיציאָנעלע ווערטן און פון פאָלק. אָט־די הויפּט־טעמים פון אָפּפרעמדונג — פסיכאָלאָגיש און סאָציאָלאָגיש — וואָס שלום עליכם באַהאַנדלט אין זיינע ווערק, איז אויך אָפּגעשפיגלט אין אַלע צייטן און אין אַלע ווערק פון אונדזער מאָדערנער יידישער ליטעראַטור ביזן היינטיקן טאָג.

שלום עליכמ׳ס שאַפן איז אַן אָפּשפיגלונג פונעם ווייטאָג און אויפרודערונג אינעם לעבן פון גאַנצן יידישן כלל. געווג צו דערמאָנען, אַז מיט די ענדערונגען אין דער עקאָנאָמישער לאַגע אין די צאַרישע לענדער, איז דאָס שטעטל עקאָנאָמיש אַוועקגעווקט געוואָרן אין דער זייט. אויב אַ שטעטל־דיקער ייד האָט געוואָלט פאַרדינען אויף פּרנסה, האָט ער זיך באַדאַרפט נעמען צו שטאָטישער אינדוסטריעלער אַרבעט אָדער צו שטאָטישן האַנדל. רעליגיע האָט אויפגעהערט צו זיין די פעסטונג, וואָס האָט געהאַלטן יידן צוגעבונדן צו איין אמת. מאָדערניזאַציע, השכלה, רעוואָלוציע, פאָגראָמען, מלחמה און אויפקום פון פאָליטישע פארטייען האָבן אַריינגעברענגט צעטרייסלונג אין יידישן לעבן.

שלום עליכמ׳ס שילדערונגען פון טביה און זיינע טעכטער, זיינען דורכגעדרונגען מיט מאָטיוון, וואָס באַווירקן אויך אונדזער היינטיקן מאָדערניזם. אין טביה׳ס באַציאונג צו דיין טאָכטער חוה, זעט מען די אָפּפרעמדונג, דעם וויטיק וואָס האָט באַווירקט דעם סאָמע עצם פון זיין לעבן אַלס אַ גלויביקער יד. אין חוה׳ס מרידה, אין איר בעטן ביי טביה׳ן דערלויבעניש חתונה צו האָבן מיט אַ קריסט, און איר שמד׳ען דערנאָך דעם ווי טביה האָט געזאָגט ניין, האָט שלום עליכם געווייזן, ווי די וועלט פון געטאָ, דער מויער און פעסטונג פון יידישן גלויבן, זיינען געפאַלן. איי־שטיין נאָכן אַנדערן.

מרידה זעט מען אויך אין האַדל׳ען זי האָט איר צעשטערט דאָס טראַדיציאָנעלע לעבן. ערשטנס האָט זי אַליין אויסגעקליבן איר חתן. צווייטנס האָט זי זיך באַטיילקט אין רעוואָלט קעגן צאַרישן רעזשים. האָדל און איר געליבטער זיינען געווען סאָציאַליסטי־אַבער פון האָדל׳ען האָט טביה זיך נישט אָפּגעפרעמדט, ווייל ער האָט פאַרשטאַנען, אַז מרידה איז אינגאַנצן אין יידישן גייסט האָבן דער אונדזערע נביאים נישט אָנגעוויזן, אַז צו העמפּן פאַר געראַכטיקייט צווישן מענטשן איז אַ מצוה?

אין זיין ראָמאַן „אין שטורם", געשריבן אין 1906, באַהאַנדלט שלום עליכם די טעמעס פון אידעאָ־לאָגיע (סאָציאַליזם, קאָמיטאַליזם, אַדער ציוניזם). נאָר אין ביישפיל פון שלום עליכמ׳ס פארשטענ־דעניש פון רעוואָלוציע און פון דער פסיכאָלאָגישער און סאָציאָלאָגישער אָפּפרעמדונג, וואָס מזרח־אייראָפּייאישע יידנטום האָט דורכגעמאַכט אין די ערשטע יאָרן פון אונדזער יאָרהונדערט. זעט מען אין מאָטל פייסי, וועלן פיניע קומט אַן קיין עלים איילענד, און איידער ער פאָרט אריבער קיין ניו־יאָרק, דרייט ער זיך אויס, און שרייט אַריבער איבערן ים צו רוסלאַנד: „איר וועט זיך נאָך אמאָל ארומקוקן, אז איר האָט געהאט א פאָלק ישראל און נישט געוואוסט, ווי צו שאַנעווען דאס דאָזיקע פאָלק!... איר וועט זיך נאָך אמאָל פארבענקען נאָך אונדז!... איר וועט אונדז רופן צוריק, נאָר א מכה וועלן מיר צו אייך פארן!..."

גאָרבאַטשאָוו יאָלט פאַרשטאַנען פאַרוואָס איך האָלט, אַז שלום עליכם איז געווען א שרייבער, וואָס האָט ווי געהעריק באַגריפן דעם פרייז פון אָפּפרעמדונג און רעוואָלוציע.

Wannsee's importance rejected

LONDON (JTA) —

An Israeli Holocaust scholar has debunked the Wannsee Conference, at which top Nazi officials are said to have gathered at a villa in a Berlin suburb in 1942 to draw the blueprints of the "Final Solution."

According to Prof. Yehuda Bauer of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Wannsee was a meeting, but "hardly a conference," and "little of what was said there was executed in detail."

Bauer addressed the opening session of an international conference held here to mark the 50th anniversary of the decision to carry out the "Final Solution." But it was not made at Wannsee, the Czech-born scholar said.

"The public still repeats, time after time, the silly story that at Wannsee the extermination of the Jews was arrived at. Wannsee was but a stage in the unfolding of the process of mass murder," he said.

Bauer also maintained that fears that memories of the Holocaust are receding with time are unfounded.

"Whether presented authentically or inauthentically, with empathy and understanding or as monumental kitsch, the Holocaust has become a ruling symbol of our culture.

"Hardly a month passes without a new TV production, a new film, a new drama, a number of new books of prose or poetry dealing with the subject.

"Dead Jews, as contrasted with live ones, have very often been a subject of commiseration, sympathy and soul-searching," the professor said.

Viewing exhibits at the Wannsee-Villa memorial are (from left) Heinz Galinski, chairman of the German Jewish community, Rudolf Seiters, minister of the German interior, Rita Sussmuth, president of the German Parliament, and Eberhard Diepgen, mayor of Berlin. The theory that Wannsee was the birthplace of the Holocaust idea has been debunked by an Israeli scholar. [RNS Photo/Reuters]

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Muslim republic Jews in fear

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —

With the Soviet Jewry movement of the '70s and '80s still fresh in our minds, experts here agree Diaspora Jews may have to brace themselves in the '90s for Kazakh, Tadzhik and Azeri Jewry movements.

With the Soviet Union relegated to history, most North American Jewish organizations say the focus on Jews should now shift to the 11 republics comprising the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

And even though rallies in the West for Refuseniks and arrests of Soviet Jews for trying to emigrate are things of the past, the plight of Jews in the former Soviet Union is viewed as just as urgent as it was, if not more so.

Rapid disintegration, economic and social upheaval, ethnic clashes and hyperinflation cannot, and never have, spelled good news for Jews.

Adding to the new drama in the CIS is the situation of Jews in the five Central Asian Muslim republics of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kirghizia and Tadzhikstan, and in Azerbaijan, which is also predominantly Muslim.

According to one recent report by William Cohen, a member of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, there are between 100,000 and 250,000 Jews in those republics, where dangerous circumstances have erupted into massive discrimination and frequent violence against them.

Writing in the *Near East Report* last month, Cohen reports that Muslim gangs, emboldened by the absence and possible encouragement of police, prey on defenceless Jews, beating, robbing and, in some instances, killing them with impunity.

Cohen visited the roughly 13,000-member Jewish community of Dushanbe, the capital of Tadzhikstan, and found "enormous" fear of a hostile Muslim world, one in which clerics speak openly of replacing socialism with a revived Islam.

The republic was openly trying to forge ties with its Islamic neighbors, Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan, while nations like Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Libya and Egypt have already sent aid and religious books. Most frightening was the widely-held belief that the Jews could become a hostage community, as in Syria.

Time, Cohen said, is running out to rescue these endangered Jews, who are surrounded by as many as 50 million Muslims.

While concerned, Prof. Aurel Braun, chairman of the Soviet Jewry committee of B'nai Brith Canada's institute for international affairs, is more sanguine.

The six republics are far from homogeneous and there are strong drives toward democracy in each, Braun told *The CJN*.

As well, the old Soviet influence of a secular, atheistic society, and its free emigration policy, cannot be dismissed, Braun asserted.

But neither can the turmoil and uncertainty in the republics, he added.

"Wherever chaos exists, no one is safe, least of all minorities," said Braun, a political scientist at the University of Toronto.

While Braun believes it is "not probable" that Jews could become hostages in the Muslim republics, he warns that "nothing can be excluded."

Given current conditions in the republics — nationalism, dramatic price hikes and, in Georgia's case, the possibility of all-out civil war — Braun feels it would be "an extraordinary gamble" for Jews to stay if they have the opportunity to leave.

Israel, which has recognized all 11 republics, has issued over one million invitations to Jews.

But many are not availing themselves of the chance to go because of reports of unemployment, housing shortages and general malaise among the emigre population in Israel.

Michael Rosenthal, national co-chairman of Canadian Jewish Congress's Soviet Jewry committee, agrees the "whole focus" on Jews in the CIS must change.

Rosenthal is seeking CJC funds to establish ties with the republics and set up cultural, language and religious programs for Jews who want to stay.

Loan issue up in the air

[Cont'd. from page 1]

having been worked out between the administration and the Israeli government, Hoenlein said.

During the meeting with Shamir, Hoenlein and Cardin are believed to have raised the issue of recent hard-line public pronouncements on settlement policy by several government ministers, including the premier himself.

The Shamir government is reported to have received some tough feedback from American Jewish leaders.

Seymour Reich, the immediate past chairman of the Conference of Presidents, was quoted by the media here as sharply critical of Shamir's declaration earlier in the week that settlement-building would continue, no matter what.

The Israeli media also headlined a report that delegates attending next month's annual plenum of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council may push for a resolution urging an Israeli settlement freeze.

Cardin and Hoenlein apprised Shamir of the economic recession in the United States and the trend toward political isolationism influencing large sections of opinion there.

In that atmosphere, foreign aid is not very popular, Hoenlein explained. He said a key part of American Jewry's efforts to overcome resistance to Israel's requests would be educational.

The organized Jewish community will stress to American opinion-makers that the guarantees to Israel are not tantamount to loans from American taxpayers.

The argument will be made that much of the money Israel borrows from banks against the guarantees will be spent in the United States, creating or keeping jobs for American workers.

Hoenlein said he does not think the imminent fall of the Likud-led government will influence the American decision on the loan guarantees, because it is a humanitarian issue outside of politics.

Shamir's government lost its parliamentary majority last week after the defection of two far-right parties opposed to the current peace talks.

But if Shamir agrees to reduce the pace of settlement-building, he will lose any chance of continuing to govern as a minority regime until the statutory elections in November, political observers here said.

The ultranationalist Tehiya, Moledet and Tsomet parties, which all bolted the coalition, are not likely to support Likud in the Knesset if concessions are made on settlements.

Tsomet withdrew from the government last month in a dispute over an electoral reform bill. Tehiya and Moledet quit Jan. 19 to protest an alleged offer of limited self-rule to Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

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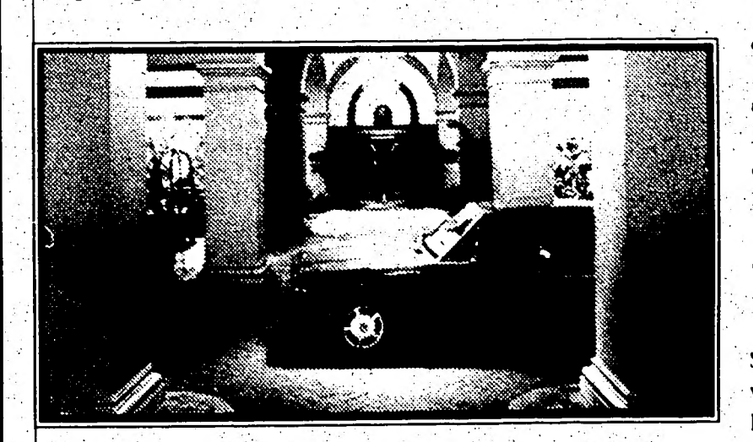

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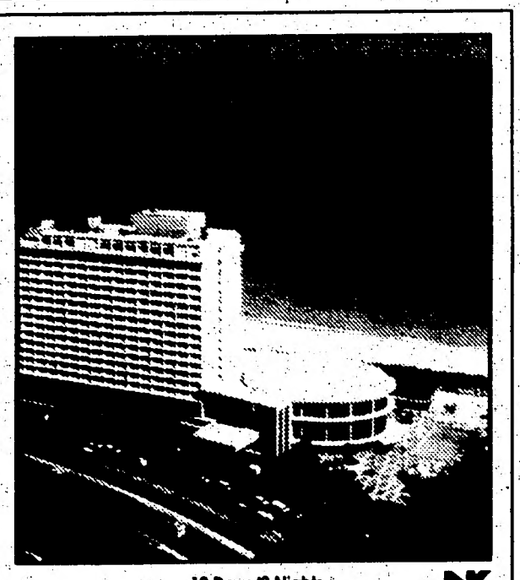

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CJN Exclusive

Preston Manning

Few politicians in the national arena have commanded Canadians' attention as quickly and as intensely as a bespectacled, mild-mannered former management consultant from Edmonton named E. Preston Manning. The son of Ernest Manning, Alberta's Social Credit premier from 1943 to 1968, Preston Manning in 1987 helped found the Reform Party of Canada, a grass-roots, populist, right-wing party that seems either to be embraced vigorously by many fed up with the mainstream parties or treated with contempt by others as a worrisome trend in Canadian politics.

In either case, the Reform party cannot be dismissed. Manning has taken the party to 15 percent support in the polls, compared to 12 percent for the governing Tories, and the Reform party recently tallied its 100,000th member.

Reformers favor an overhaul of Canada's tax system, fiscal conservatism, an end to official bilingualism and multicultural programs, a triple-E senate and no special treatment for Quebec. Other policies follow a distinctly right-wing agenda.

As a result, Manning, 49, has been dogged from the party's inception by a nasty image problem. Reformers have been branded racist, anti-French, anti-gay, fascist and sexist. Its leader has been compared to neo-Nazi U.S. presidential hopeful David Duke, while his followers have been lampooned as Prairie rednecks.

It is a fact that the party has attracted its share of the right-wing lunatic fringe, who find in Reform an outlet for extremist views. One recent study by a Saskatchewan journalist revealed the party's connections to a web of rightist groups like the National Citizens' Coalition and the Canadian-South African Society.

It's little wonder, then, that Canada's Jews worry about Manning, whose party may, at least in theory, represent the balance of power in a future government. Many in the community feel his statements about multiculturalism, minority rights and Quebec thinly veil anti-Semitic sentiment.

CJN reporter Ron Csillag interviewed Manning last week in Hamilton. The interview was filmed by CBC's The Journal *as part of a future broadcast on Manning.*

CJN: *For the past 18 months or so, you have reached out to Canada's Jewish community, addressing meetings and meeting community leaders and rabbis. Why?*

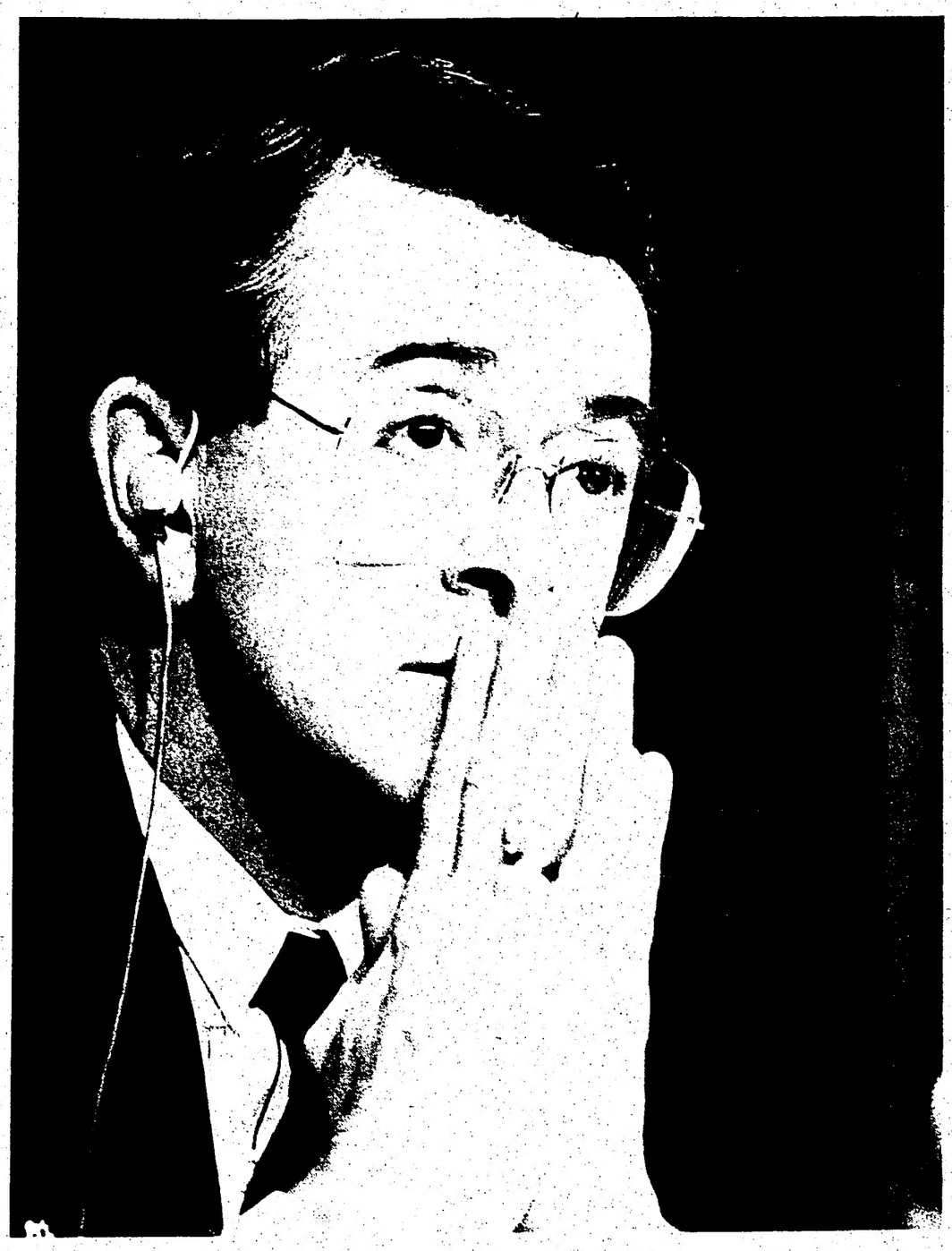
Manning: We are in the process of building a new party and we'd like to touch base with all parts of the community. I'm very sensitive to the fact that Jewish leaders and Jewish people have cause for concern about new political movements, particularly ones that have been labeled in the conventional press as being right-wing, populist and harboring extreme views, especially on racial or ethnic subjects. So I've gone out of my way to make contact with people, explain who we are and what we do and also to indicate that I have a sensitivity to that too, based on my studies of previous populist movements in the West, some of which have had unfortunate experiences in that area. I'm quite anxious to make sure we avoid those experiences.

CJN: *The party has been accused of racism, gay-bashing, of anti-Semitism — of policies many religions and minorities find unpalatable. What can you tell me today that will ease people's concerns and what will you do to distance the party from some extremists who are attracted to Reform?*

Manning: We have to recognize the dangers of a new party — that there are people with extreme views or even single-issue views, who feel that a new party is an easy influence because it's just starting, it needs people, doesn't have all the mechanisms in place. I think the first step to protecting yourself from that influence is to be aware that it's a danger, which we are.

Secondly, we encourage people who have concerns in that area to look at our actual policy manual and what we are saying, not what others are saying about us. If people do that, they'll find that what we are trying to do is strip out racial criteria as being a factor in the relationship between the citizen and the state. We argue that should be done in the Constitution and should follow through to other areas, like cultural and immigration policy.

On a practical level, I give a fair number of talks, not just to our own people, but to general audiences, on the need to have moderators at public meetings, where if someone stands up and makes an extremist statement, we don't just all sit there, fidgeting and wishing he would stop or wait for someone on the platform to put the squeeze on him. We found at our meetings that if that ever happens, someone from the audience goes to the floor mike and says, "Whatever this person said, surely that does not represent the thinking of most of the people in this room or most Canadians." We found that rank-and-file people acting as moderators is a very effective way of distancing those [extremist] people and making it clear to them that that type of behavior is unacceptable.



CJN: *But what is it about your party's philosophy that attracts people with extremist views and who are not afraid to voice them?*

Manning: I think it's the newness and the openness of it. People just assume they can influence it more than an older party. Because we advocate fundamental changes in areas like immigration, cultural policy and the Constitution, I think some of these people mistakenly assume that our views are similar to theirs.

CJN: *Why should multicultural groups vote for you, given your stand on multiculturalism?*

Manning: First of all, I say this to all special interest groups: this country is falling apart constitutionally. It's divided by its own constitution and constitutional arrangement. Its federal government is bankrupt. It's going to have a $500 billion debt by the end of this decade if nothing is done. And its parliament, its senior democratic political institution, doesn't work. My argument is that no matter what your special interest is, if the Constitution is not fixed, if how the federal government handles money is not fixed and if Parliament is not fixed, the national government is an ineffective instrument to do what we want it to do.

So my appeal to members of special interest groups is on a broader basis, saying "I recognize your special concerns, but don't we all have an interest in getting these other things fixed?" The core of the Reform party's policy is not dealing with culture, language and immigration [even though] we recognize how important these things are. The core of our policy is to get those three things [the Constitution, spending and Parliament] fixed. So we appeal to people on a much broader basis: "Would you consider joining with us to get those things fixed? And in the process, you can influence how we develop our positions in the other areas."

We are fortunate in that we have started to attract people from different ethnic groups, including the Jewish community, and this is another thing that's very important to us. This more than anything else safeguards us against anti-Semitism. If there's someone who is anti-Semitic and sees Jewish people involved at the constituency level, as is the case in some ridings in the West, that in itself can inoculate the party from the problem.

CJN: *Does it worry you that thousands are turning to your party out of a sense of anger and frustration with the status quo?*

Manning: It does, although what we endeavor to do is take that anger and frustration and say, "Okay, we'll give you an opportunity to vent that, but now, let's get on with the constructive solutions." What I suggest is more dangerous, is if those people become so alienated, that they will not identify with the political process at all. What really breeds dangerous extremism — not just talk but people who do extreme things — is when they get so isolated, that there's no place for them to go and there's nobody to moderate them.

CJN: *You say Ottawa should abolish the department of multiculturalism and eliminate all funding for programs. Some of your organizers say multiculturalism should be funded by the provinces and municipalities.*

Manning: That's what we've said right from the beginning. We say the preservation of linguistic and cultural distinctiveness ought essentially be a provincial responsibility, and that the role of the federal government should be in the area of prevention of discrimination on the basis of language and culture. When we take a look at the federal multiculturalism department, we see the one-third it of dedicated to preserving ethnic and cultural distinctiveness being eliminated and its function taken over by the private sector and the provinces. We see its discrimination prevention section being taken over by the justice department and its immigrant adjustment function being taken over by the secretary of state. So we thought that through very carefully and we've been consistent on that from the beginning.

CJN: *As you know, External Affairs Minister Barbara McDougall is in Moscow this week to lead Canada's delegation to the multilateral phase of the Middle East peace talks. If you were prime minister, what would you have told her to do and say?*

Manning: I don't see Canada being in a position to tell the nations in the Middle East what position to take on the issues. I do see Canada, as it has historically, making itself available if there's a Mideast role it can play in supervising whatever arrangements come out of this. I do think that in Canada's relations with Israel, Canada would like to see an accommodation with the Palestinians.

On the other hand, I think most Canadians would say that one absolute precondition to which Israel would be entitled to insist upon is an iron-clad recognition of its own right to sovereignty by some of the nations it has to deal with. But I know and you know how Canadians react to other countries telling us how to do our own internal affairs and how to relate to the United States. I think Canada has to avoid putting itself in that position in the Middle East.

CJN: *You have professed a personal admiration for the state of Israel. What is that based on?*

Manning: It's based on a number of things. I have an admiration for nations that try to use the democratic process, particularly when they're under strain. There's a lot of temptation not to be democratic when you're under strain. I do admire the way the state of Israel has tried to adhere to democratic processes within its own borders. I think it's an exception to the rule in the Middle East.

Secondly, I am an evangelical Christian, and I trace my own religious roots back to the Jewish scriptures, the Old Testament and the experience of the ancient Hebrew people. I think there's an awful lot to learn in the experience of the Hebrew people — on limits to law, what you can do with law, how to preserve ethnic and racial distinctness when you don't have the territory and political institutions to do it. Somehow, the Jewish people managed to do that for a long time. I think in those lessons, there's something instructive for Canada and the world. We have a whole bunch of groups that can't all have territories and political institutions to preserve racial and ethnic distinctiveness.

CJN: *What message do you have for anglo-Quebecers?*

Manning: Well, we don't target anglo-Quebecers. We think it's very much in the interest of all Quebecers, particularly anglo-Quebecers, that they find some strong advocates of federalism in Quebec. Federalism can't be sold in Quebec from outside Quebec. A lot of the traditional political parties are extremely suspect in the way they try to sell federalism. They use blunt threats, but there's no inspirational, new ideas to make the average Quebecer enthusiastic about federalism. And I think non-francophone Quebecers have got to express some concern about the dangers of an independent Quebec that is formed for the purpose of preserving the racial and linguistic distinctiveness of a particular group. That's a concept that can start out very benignly. As the Jewish people know, that's a concept that can be turned into the greatest political perversion possible. I think it's easier for Quebecers themselves to talk about that and warn about the dangers of that: founding states on racial concepts is a dangerous game.

Jewish studies return to former Soviet states

By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

TORONTO —

After decades of stagnation, Jewish studies are developing in the former Soviet Union.

At the second annual Academic Conference on Jewish Themes, held near Moscow last month, Canadian and Soviet researchers delivered papers and exchanged views on a wide variety of topics turning on, or related to, Jewish affairs in what is now the Commonwealth of Independent States.

The conference — the brainchild of University of Toronto professor Henry Weinberg — took place under the auspices of the recently-formed Jewish Research Centre, which is affiliated with the Soviet Academy of Sciences in Moscow.

Attending were nine Canadians and 14 Soviets, representing disciplines ranging from history and sociology to demography and political science.

Weinberg, chairman of the Canada-U.S.S.R. Academic Dialogue on Jewish Themes, believes that Soviet scholars have made "great progress" since the first Academic Conference on Jewish Themes at the University of Toronto in December 1990.

In the old Soviet Union, until about the mid-point of the Gorbachev era, Jewish scholarship was frowned upon, discouraged or simply forbidden by the authorities.

Weinberg said that last month's three-day conference in Solnechnagorsk, 66 kilometres northwest of Moscow, had heartened and encouraged scholars engaged in Jewish studies.

Frederick Krantz, director of the Montreal-based Canadian Institute for Jewish Research and a conference participant, said the Soviets he had met form "the nucleus of a new generation of Jewish scholars" in what was the Soviet Union."

Krantz, who also teaches history at Concordia University, explained that they've been cut off from the West for so long that only now are they becoming familiar with Western research techniques, books and journals.

Nevertheless, he added, they are "terribly underfunded," while the Jewish Research Centre is still at the stage where it must justify its existence to the financially-strapped Soviet Academy for Sciences. What's more, scholars with an interest in Jewish themes are still criticized in some circles for pursuing a "narrow agenda."

The Soviet scholars whom Krantz encountered were largely in their 30s and 40s and the products of highly assimilated, secular backgrounds. Nonetheless, they exhibited "a great hunger" for Jewish knowledge, and were eager "to discover their own Jewishness."

Krantz said that apart from their contacts with Canadian researchers, the Soviets have not been in touch with any other foreign scholars.

As a result, Canadians are in the forefront of helping to promote and advance Jewish studies in the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Krantz said he had learned there are between 1.5 to 2.5 million Jews in the now-defunct Soviet Union, and 2.5 million to three million Jews with at least one Jewish grandparent.

As for emigration, the "vast, vast majority" of Jews want to leave.

"They feel the general situation will worsen. They fear instability, a coup. There is a great fear of popular anti-Semitism, which is widespread."

He disclosed that Pamyat, the notorious anti-Semitic movement, has just established its first radio station, capable of broadcasting throughout the former Soviet Union. Pamyat, too, has won the hearts and minds of an alarming number of Russian intellectuals and writers.

Weinberg noted that the third Academic Conference on Jewish Themes will take place in Jerusalem, Toronto or Montreal in December.

Soviet aliyah strong in '91

NEW YORK (JTA) —

The Soviet Union may have ceased to exist, but the stampede of Jews surging from its 15 former republics continued without interruption in 1991, despite a slight dip this fall.

According to the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, 145,005 Jews from the U.S.S.R. made aliyah in 1991, bringing overall immigration to Israel to a total of 170,740.

The figures failed to match the peak year, 1990, during which a record 186,815 immigrants arrived in the Jewish state, 181,759 from what was still the Soviet Union.

But the monthly decline that began in July and hit a low of 8,090 arrivals from the Soviet Union in November appears to have been reversed, as 10,359 Soviet Jews came to Israel in December, during the one-time superpower's final days. That represents a 28 percent increase in one month.

1991 was also the second biggest year for Soviet immigration to the United States. According to the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, a total of 34,715 Jews from what was the Soviet Union arrived here last year under the U.S. refugee program.

That figure fell short of the 1989 total of 36,738 and was considerably lower than expectations at the outset of the year. But December's total of 4,350 U.S. arrivals was more than triple the number that came last January.

All immigration is sensitive to changing conditions. If in 1991, Soviet aliyah was down about one-fifth from the previous year, it should be remembered that 1991 was a more tumultuous year.

Nevertheless, at the year's end, the Jewish Agency said it expected between 150,000 to 170,000 to arrive in Israel in 1992, virtually the same as in 1991, though it could handle greater numbers if required.

Agency officials noted that about 105,000 Jews already hold Soviet exit visas, and 45,000 of them also have Israeli entry visas. It is expected that the individual republics will honor the Soviet visas.

But Cardin said she is still concerned with free Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union's successor states. She referred to still-unresolved cases of Refuseniks and the problem of "poor relatives" holding up the departure of would-be emigrants.

There seems to have been some attrition. Jewish Agency sources claim that more than 9,000 Soviet Jews left Israel for South Africa in 1991, and that another 3,000 are seeking South African entry visas.

The Absorption Ministry claims that only 500 emigre families — about 1,500 people — have left the country.

Ethiopia continued to be the second largest source of aliyah.

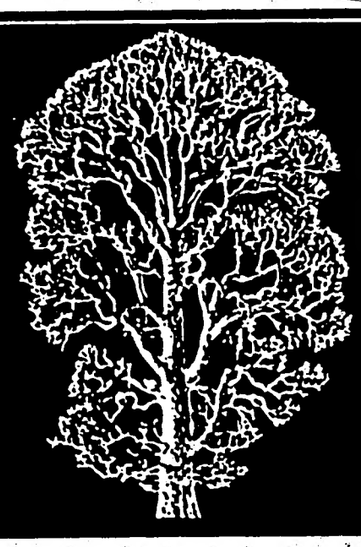
About 20,000 Jews arrived in Israel from that country during 1991, some 14,200 of them in a single 36-hour period last May by an emergency airlift known as "Operation Solomon."

Some 4,500 Jews are left in Ethiopia. But the Jewish Agency is optimistic they can be reunited with their families in Israel.

Immigrant absorption problems persist. About 11,300 Ethiopian olim are still living in hotels. The Jewish Agency hopes to move all of them into permanent housing by next June.

Summing up, Israel's population now stands at 5,050,000, swollen by the 340,000 Jews who have arrived from the former Soviet Union since the aliyah wave began in 1989.

The population grew at a rate of 4.7 percent in 1991, a slowdown compared to 1990, when the growth rate was 5.7 percent.



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Steven Ain, Executive Director

World

The News In Brief

Bribery scandal

TEL AVIV — One of the key officials involved in the U.S.-funded Arrow missile development program has been suspended in the wake of allegations that he pocketed tens of thousands of dollars in bribes form undisclosed sources.

At the centre of the bribery scandal is Dov Raviv, general manager of Israel Aircraft Industries' top-secret Malam factory, where the Arrow anti-missile is being developed.

* * *

Kollek softens attack

JERUSALEM — Toning down his fierce attack on East Jersusalem church leaders, Mayor Teddy Kollek said they were partly justified in their criticism of Israel's handling of their holy sites.

They were right to protest the continued holding of the St. John's Hospice by settlers, but they were wrong to include other issues such as Jews moving into Silwan in their protest "for only political reasons," Kollek said.

* * *

Moda'i chooses settlements

JERUSALEM — Israel's Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i said that if forced to choose between the $10 billion loan guarantees and continuing settlement activity, he would give up the guarantees.

"I do not believe that the president of the United States would put forward such a condition . . ." Moda'i said in reply to a question from reporters. "But if, heaven forbid, this occurs, I would recommend to the prime minister that he reject the condition."

Yitzhak Moda'i

* * *

Zionist Congress date in doubt

JERUSALEM — The Jewish Agency was buzzing with speculation that the 32nd Zionist Congress, scheduled for June 14, will be postponed in the event of early Knesset elections.

"Labor and (Jewish Agency chairman Simcha) Dinitz are interested in a postponement of about a year in order to bring the Reform movement back in line and save their leadership of the Agency," the official said. "Another year would give Dinitz time to bring the Reform back in line, and save himself another term in office," the official said.

* * *

Crackdown on neo-Nazis

BUDAPEST — The Hungarian police are investigating an international neo-Nazi ring active here.

Neo-Nazi propaganda leaflets have been seized by the Hungarian police and their printing presses have been confiscated. According to press reports, the neo-Nazi chain is international. But its membership is limited and consists mostly of young people.

* * *

Aid package approved

BRUSSELS — In a signal of displeasure with Israeli policies, the European Community's legislative body narrowly approved a financial aid package for the Jewish state but urged a freeze on the funds, pending an improvement of human rights practices in the administered territories.

The aid, in the form of a $105 million European Investment Bank loan, was bound by conditions.

* * *

Army increases activities

JERUSALEM — The Israeli Army has stepped up its activities in the territories, according to a military statement.

The timing of the statement was linked by a military source to mounting pressure from settlers on Defence Minister Moshe Arens, as well as political criticism from the right blaming the military for losing control of events and failing to handle the intifada, particularly by not stemming the current rise of firearm attacks.

* * *

U.S. probing spy angle

JERUSALEM — U.S. investigators have begun probing a possible new angle to the Rami Dotan-Israel Air Force (IAF) arms-procurement affair, amid allegations that funds diverted by Dotan were to be used for covert Israeli operations, the *Wall Street Journal* has reported.

Dotan, 46, a former IAF brigadier-general who oversaw the procurement of aircraft engines, was stripped of his rank and given a 13-year prison sentence after confessing last March to theft and fraud in what became one of the biggest scandals in the history of the Israeli military.

* * *

Gaza man gets life

JERUSALEM — A Gaza man was sentenced to life imprisonment in Beersheva District Court for running down a soldier with his car last July.

Jamil Baz was also given an additional 15-year jail term for the attempted murder of another soldier who was lightly injured in the attack.

In a statement to police, Baz made nationalist remarks and said he was a religious man who belonged to Hamas. He told police the Jews were responsible for his brother's death, who he said was killed by intifada activists who suspected him of being a collaborator. Killing the soldier was an act of revenge, he said.

* * *

U.S. envoy begins work

JEDRUSALEM — New U.S. Ambassador William Caldwell Harrop formally presented his credentials to President Chaim Herzog in Jerusalem last week. Harrop spoke several sentences in Hebrew.

The two met for about 30 minutes after the brief ceremony, also attended by senior U.S. and Israeli diplomats.

Harrop, 63, is a veteran diplomat and previously served as ambassador to Guinea, Kenya and Zaire. He is replacing William Brown.

* * *

'Second' wife right remains

JERUSALEM — The ministerial committee on legislation rejected a proposal last week to limit the right of rabbinical courts to permit a man to marry a second wife without divorcing the first.

Left-wing Knesset Members proposed the legislation, claiming that the practice constitutes bigamy.

Religious Affairs Ministry Avner Shaki successfully argued against the bill, saying the Knesset could not limit the power of the rabbinical courts in the areas of marriage and divorce, which are under their jurisdiction by law.

* * *

Chinese open bureau

JERUSALEM — While Israeli journalists were preparing for diplomatic relations with China by travelling to Beijing with Foreign Minister David Levy, one Chinese journalist has already arrived in Israel.

Li Hongqi is the first Chinese journalist to work from Israel. A native of Hebei Province, Li left his position as head of the Xinhua (New Chinese) News Agency's Middle East desk in Beijing to establish its Israel office. Xinhua is China's biggest and most influential news agency.

* * *

Course for women

NEW YORK — Israel's Bar Ilan University has inaugurated a graduate course to prepare women for management positions in that country's public and private sectors.

The new course was created in response to a recent study showing women to be vastly underrepresented in management ranks in Israel, according to Harriet Green, national president of Na'amat USA, the American and Israeli women's organization that is co-operating in Bar Ilan's undertaking.

* * *

Court stays deportation

JERUSALEM — Israel's High Court of Justice has temporarily stayed the deportation of seven Palestinian activists from the Gaza Strip, pending their appeal to Israel's supreme judicial body.

The temporary injunction was issued after a military appeals board in Gaza upheld the order to expel the seven men.

* * *

Report stresses need for loan

TEL AVIV — A 150-page report on Israel's economic outlook, due to be sent to Bush administration officials in Washington this week, predicts an unprecedented unemployment rate of 16.2 percent by 1996 if Israel does not receive U.S. guarantee for $10 billion in desperately needed loans.

The dearth of investment capital would result in 360,000 jobless Israelis four years from now.

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Front Line

COMMENTARY

Gulf War may yet have some lasting benefits

By
YESHAYAHU ANUG

A year ago Scuds were falling and Israel held its breath. Saddam Hussein was being destroyed — so it seemed — and self-control, spontaneous or imposed, was justified. On the global scene U.S. President George Bush was seen as proving, that unlike in the '30s, a tyrant must be crushed before it became too late.

Ninety percent of all Americans hailed their leader. Now, a year later, the president's popularity has reached a 45 percent low and one is inclined to take a gloomy view of America's incomplete victory in the Gulf and of its standing in the unsettled world at large. But one must not rush to conclusions.

In the Middle East, the U.S.-Arab coalition has not disintegrated, despite Saddam's unexpected survival. It has even induced Arabs to start peace talks with Israelis. If each side had hoped that the other will frustrate the encounter and be seen as spoiling the issue for which neither was emotionally ready — this has still not happened. The taboos were broken in Madrid and then came Washington. Interruptions were predictable and did indeed occur.

There'll be many more, but this does not prove much: it shows that once started and not allowed to stop, things acquire their own dynamics and may even lead somewhere. But the modest start alarmed the extremists on both sides. In the Palestinian community, which went through a brief span of exaggerated euphoria, the intifada receded, but armed terrorism raised its head again in murderous attacks against settlers in the territories. The ultras in Israel's settler community reacted quickly by singlehandedly attempting to settle every spot in the territories, where murder had either succeeded or was attempted.

They call it "the proper Zionist response," a term used in mandatory times, but anachronistic in a legalistic, sovereign society. The rejectionists of both sides, although equally determined to undermine the peace process, have unequal forces to confront. The Palestinians are facing the effective prevention apparatus of Israel's security services, while Israel's ultras could count on benevolent understanding in the ranks of Israel's coalition.

Yeshayahu Anug

However, when, after a murder in the Gaza Strip, settler activities threatened to take the law in their hands and, to appease them, the worried government was close to creating a settlers' militia, it was made aware of the risky implications and paused. The settlers then demanded to stop the peace process altogether and to deport Palestinian leaders. The first request could not be granted, but the government decided to deport 12 suspected intifada-activists. In retaliation, the Arab delegations threatened to boycott the negotiations.

In order to deprive them of any pretext to leave, the United States not only voted for a PLO-inspired condemnation of Israel by the Security Council, but even sharpened its wording, to the dismay of the Jerusalem government. The last meeting in Washington registered a curious technical breakthrough when the "corridor" was happily abandoned for a room. Israelis and Palestinians exchanged blueprints for the interim self-rule in the territories, whose contents were leaked to the press and infuriated the settlers.

A further terrorist attack on an Israeli bus brought about the estabishment — overnight — of five new unauthorized settlements. The Palestinians threatened to leave the negotiations unless Israel stops settlements altogether. There could be no such undertaking, but the Palestinians did not leave either, perhaps because the Israeli army was dismantling the sites.

Instead, the three members of Tehia and Moledet, essential for Israeli Prime Minister's Yitzhak Shamir's parliamentary majority, announced their resignation from the government to bring about its fall. The peace process will now be dragging its feet but remain in low gear, though clinically alive, until the internal crisis in Israel is resolved.

There will also be the multilateral conference in Moscow, to discuss regional issues related to peace in the Middle East, which may stimulate the parties to go ahead. And the Bush administration will keep pushing, regardless of Israel's internal crisis and despite the fact that it has so many other issues, and above all, its own future to worry about.

During recent months, the Shamir government was too busy with its own survival and has left many important issues inexplicably unattended. Recently, the national budget had to be passed and the opportunity to extort more concessions from the government was fully exploited by the two sectors on whom the government then depended for its existence. The ultra-Orthodox had to be heavily bribed and the ultra-rightist to be promised new settlements and roads in the territories.

The budget itself — of $47 billion — counts on the foreign loans for immigrant absorption, that have still to be guaranteed by the United States, but are unlikely to be granted unconditionally, unless the settlement policy is changed.

But how could Shamir renounce or modify what, in effect, had become his only real priority?

While the economy was stagnating and unemployment was rising and fewer immigrants kept coming to a dwindling labor-market and to no proper housing, it transpired, that 25 percent of all housing activity went on in the territories and that over $1.3 billion had been invested there during the last year and half.

The overall feeling was that the government was incapacitated to handle the vital issues of which the peace process was just one. And that the Knesset, with its fragmented loyalties and deteriorating norms could play no corrective role. On the contrary, it stained its reputation even more by the irregular way it has handled a controversial constitutional proposal and eventually aborted it.

Now, with elections in sight, one can expect a ruthless campaign and the electorate — in part new and inexperienced — will be exposed to merciless demagogy. Unless Likud or Labor do separately much better than is generally expected, they may have to join forces, embarrassing as this may be for both, if they do not want to be again at the mercy of haredi and smaller parties.

But only time will tell, whether this option, which was already tried once, will at all be possible now. Signs are not too favorable for a retry and the ferocious electoral campaign ahead is likely to drive them even further apart.

But one cannot think, short of a miracle, of another more adequate remedy for Israel's unprecedented difficulties.

ANALYSIS

David Duke's past filled with racist incidents

By
PAUL LUNGEN

If you can know a person by the company he keeps, David Duke's efforts to present himself as merely a buttoned-down conservative who made some youthful mistakes should founder with every revelation about his ties to the extremist right.

Duke, who has become an internationally-recognized figure, is the former Ku Klux Klansman who has made a serious bid for the governorship of Louisiana and who ran for the U.S. presidency in 1988. Some U.S. political analysts predict he may siphon off conservative votes if he runs as an independent in this year's presidential race, harming the re-election prospects of President George Bush.

Duke has traded in his white Klan robes for the three piece suit of respectability. He has softened his overt racist message and some listeners to a recent interview with Duke on Toronto radio station CFRB commented that they could hear nothing hateful in his message.

But journalist James Ridgeway, in *Blood in the Face: The Ku Klux Klan, Aryan Nations, Nazi Skinheads and the Rise of a New White Culture*, Thunder's Mouth Press, brings to light the unsavory, racist elements in Duke's past.

In 1970 Duke was writing that "we're losing our schools to Black savagery, losing our hard-earned pay to Black welfare. . . losing our culture to Jewish and Black degeneracy. . ."

In 1975 he formed his own Knights of the KKK in Louisiana. He left the Klan in 1980 and formed the Association for the Advancement of White People to promote racial separation.

Duke promoted an eugenics program under which blonde, blue-eyed whites with high IQs would get government loans they could repay by having genetically superior children.

Despite his claims to have severed ties with the KKK, in 1987 he was featured speaker at a Klan rally in Forsyth County, Georgia, the scene of several white power demonstrations that year.

Klan leaders from across the United States attended his presidential campaign kickoff in June of 1987 and his campaign manager was Ralph Forbes, who had been the Western U.S. commander of George Lincoln Rockwell's American Nazi Party in the 1960s.

In his presidential bid, Duke ran under the banner of the Populist Party. That party, Ridgeway writes, was an amalgam of right wing groups including former members of the Posse Comitatus (which believes income tax is illegal and opposes government authority beyond county sheriffs), various Klans and Christian Identity groups in Indiana and Florida.

The party was backed by Willis Carto, the Liberty Lobby, and its publication, *Spotlight*.

Ridgeway fails to mention that Carto is one of the principals behind the Institute for Historical Review, the California-based pseudo-think tank that publishes Holocaust-denial material.

Duke, it turns out, represents merely the tip of the white supremacist iceberg, clearly linked to a 130-year-old tradition of racist extremism in the United States.

Ridgeway, Washington correspondent of the *Village Voice*, begins his survey of racist groups with the post-Civil War KKK. The careers of well known demagogic figures, including Gerald L. K. Smith and Father Charles Coughlin, are described and followed up through today's spiritual heirs to their racist obsessions.

Some racists believe only Aryans are capable of blushing, of having "blood in the face," distinguishing them from non-Aryans and "mud people."

Ridgeway even throws some light on the Illuminati, established in 1776 to promote rationalistic philosophy and the humanities. It was that group, along with Freemasons and Jews, that former Eckville, Alta. teacher Jim Keegstra repeatedly taught was involved in conspiracies against Christian civilization.

Though Ridgeway's description of U.S. racists is wide-ranging, little mention is made of their ties to racists in Canada. But Ridgeway succeeds in describing the links between numerous U.S. groups and their overlapping membership, leadership and beliefs.

The Christian Identity movement, for instance, holds that Anglo-Saxons are the true descendents of the ancient Israelites. That movement spawned the Church of Jesus Christ Christian and through its leader, Richard Butler, the Aryan Nations (its Canadian spokesman is Terry Long of Alberta). A further offshoot of that was The Order, which was responsible for the murder of Denver talk show host Alan Berg, as well as armed robberies and shootouts with police.

While The Order and the KKK have been responsible for violent crime, one 1960s group associated with the Minutemen held an almost comical set of beliefs. Led by Kenneth Goff, it advanced the theory that the Soviets were secretly buying horses along the West Coast to mount a Cossack-style attack on California and beyond.

While that "theory" is laughable, a related Minutemen group was Dr. Wesley Swift's Church of Jesus Christ Christian. That church spawned the Aryan Nations which in turn led to The Order. The latter were no laughing matter.

A typical KKK march down the main street of a U.S. metropolis. [RNS Photo/Reuters]

Editorial/Letters

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Grave disservice

The president of the Canadian Arab Federation did a grave disservice to Arab and other Canadians recently by clumsily introducing the question of religion and ethnicity in the debate on the appointment of a new Canadian ambassador to Israel.

Interviewed by Donna Tranquada on Toronto's CFRB radio station, James Kafieh deplored the decision to remove Ambassador Michael Bell from his current post in Israel and suggested that Norman Spector, the new appointee, was a bad choice because he was a Jew who had connections with Montreal Zionist circles.

Pressed on the question of Spector's Jewish identity, Kafieh quickly pointed out that his stand was not against Spector as a Jew — because there were Jews who supported Palestinian rights — but because he feared that the new ambassador's identification with Zionist circles would inhibit his task of checking-up on Israeli violations of Palestinian rights.

His interviewer challenged Kafieh to provide proof that his speculations about Spector's future performance as ambassador were based on concrete avidence. He, of course, was unable to provide any.

What Kafieh did provide, however, was an example of an appalling lack of judgment and good sense in attacking Spector on entirely specious grounds, and by introducing in public discourse the invidious notion that Jews who support Palestinian rights are good Jews, while all other Jews are not.

This is a definition which no Jew can accept nor should any thinking person. But the implications of Kafieh's remarks are wide-ranging because they could be used against any Muslim Canadian being considered for a post in a Muslim country!

Canadian Jews have fought for decades to enjoy the same rights as all Canadians — including participation in government service. For many years that struggle was a difficult one.

They will not permit that right to be eroded by the re-introduction, in Canadian government, of a mean-spirited religious or ethnic means test.

Where is Arad?

Ron Arad is still missing.

Arad is an Israeli air force navigator whose Phantom jet was shot down over southern Lebanon in October 1986. The downed pilot was rescued, but Arad was captured by a Lebanese Sh'ite militia, most probably Amal. Arad was then reportedly "sold" by his captors to Iran. Arad is believed to be alive, but his whereabouts are shrouded in mystery.

Israel had hoped to gain his release last month when the last three American hostages in Lebanon — Joseph Cicippio, Alann Steen and Terry Anderson — were finally freed. But negotiations by Israeli and United Nations' diplomats so far have yielded nothing.

Shortly before he stepped down as UN secretary-general on Dec. 31, Javier Perez de Cuellar expressed optimism that all hostages, including Arad, would be accounted for. And in a meeting at UN headquarters with Tami Arad, Ron Arad's wife, de Cuellar promised he would "do his utmost" to end his captivity. But when de Cuellar left office, he had come no closer to extricating Arad. Indeed, de Cuellar could not even give Tami Arad information about his condition.

Understandly, Israel is growing weary of this state of affairs. Late last year, Israel's chief hostage negotiator, Uri Lubrani, expressed "great disappointment" over the UN's failure to secure Arad's release. Earlier this month, Lubrani met with UN special envoy Giandomenico Picco, and left the meeting unsatisfied. "I don't see any progress, unfortunately" he was quoted as saying.

In the waning months of 1991, Israel released a considerable number of Arab prisoners to appease the jailers holding Arad and the Western prisoners. The Arab side responded by releasing Cicippio, Steen and Anderson, by returning the body of a dead Israeli soldier, Samir Assad, and by providing proof of the deaths of two other Israeli troops, Yossi Fink and Rachamim Alsheikh. But Arad's status remains unclear, much to his family's grief.

The Israeli government, however, possesses a trump card. It holds about 200 Lebanese Shi'ites, including Sheik Abdel Karim Obeid, an Islamic fundamentalist leader who's closely associated with the pro-Iran Party of God. They are anxious to be reunited with their families, but Israel is under no obligation to free them unless Arad is released.

The ball is in the Arabs' court. Let them do what they must to resolve this wretched affair.

CAMPAIGN PROMISE

Jewish settlers dance with an Israeli flag during a tree-planting ceremony. Knesset ministers, kicking off their election campaign, have vowed not to stop settlements in the territories. [RNS Photo/Reuters]

Letters to the Editor

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

* * *

TWO STANDARDS

The long standing anti-Israel preoccupation in the UN Security Council was blatantly manifest recently in the form of a resolution proposed by Yasser Arafat, notoriously disqualified by his ardent support of Saddam, unanimously condemning Israel for her justified planned deportation of 12 known organizers and perpetrators of the recent murder of several Israelis.

In contrast, the Security Council gingerly looked the other way in the face of such flagrant offences like Syria's murder of 20,000 in Hamma, Iraq's gassing 5,000 Kurds, Kuwait's deportation of, not 12, but 400,000 Palestinian Arabs or of such "minor" offences like recent execution of nine in Iran for "disturbing the public order" and the amputation of right hands of two men for theft in Saudi Arabia. It is worthwhile to mention that those to be deported in Israel have the right to appeal the decision whereas those others had none whatsoever.

These Security Council's actions and inactions should be construed as an expression of its either fawning to the Arabs with their petrodollars or of a plain old-fashioned anti-Semitism — rather both, as they go hand in hand, and which prevents it from turning its attention to the ongoing ominous events in the Middle East and elsewhere.

Isaac Josy
Toronto

* * *

BRAVO DORA WASSERMAN

Indeed, we owe a debt of gratitude to the Montreal Yiddish Theatre and to its director, for an uplifting and truly inspiring TV extravaganza early in the new year. I am referring of course to Dora Wasserman and her theatre's visit to the Russian Commonwealth. May it be a harbinger of many similar unique events of broadcasting on a Jewish theme yet to come!

The performance proved exhilarating and a cultural delight. Witnessing Canadian and Russian Jews join in a manifestation of our rich Yiddish heritage, caused tears of joy to flow freely across the ocean.

The beauty, the charm and the grace of our national songs and dances, must at all costs be passed on to younger generations. A general upswing in Yiddish culture, including our thousand-year-old language and literary endeavor through the ages, buttressed by a revival in Yiddish education, would undoubtedly help in our efforts to stave off the tide of assimilation.

The CBC also deserves plaudits for its airing of such an emotionally-charged happening, and thus giving our Jewish heritage such a tremendous boost.

Norman Lipschutz
Glace Bay, N.S.

Dora Wasserman

* * *

TRIBUTE TO RABBI FELDER

We compliment *The CJN* on the excellent tribute to the late and beloved Rabbi Gedalia Felder.

Rabbi Felder was a teacher of Talmud in the first Junior High School in this city at Associated Hebrew Schools. We know that his countless students have fond memories of this outstanding scholar and would be pleased to see *The CJN* record this fact.

In recognition of Rabbi Felder's dedication of our students, he was the distinguished honoree at our annual dinner held a few years ago. Several hundreds of his friends attended and shared in this tribute.

Rabbi Felder played a major role in the success of Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto.

Harry Krakowsky
President
Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto

* * *

A DIFFERENT VIEW

Re. the letter on Robert Maxwell's burial in Jerusalem (CJN, Dec. 26).

How come you jump on the popularity bandwagon before anything has been proved?

If you have supported the State of Israel before and are looking for a cop-out, don't look for poor excuses.

I was the only Jew working in a company of 275 people. After my retirement I found out that the company folded, owing all these people back pay and holiday/vacation pay with some or no pensions paid. This matter is now before the courts.

Incidentally they all knew I am Jewish and I didn't get embarassed every time Israel was compelled to defend itself although I was baited plenty.

Morris Schlifer
Toronto

* * *

HOLD ZIONIST ELECTION

I am concerned that the delegates to the upcoming World Zionist Congress in Jerusalem will not be elected.

In a recent article in *The CJN* several leading members of the Canadian Zionist Federation (CZF) state their opposition to holding elections on the basis of expense, their suggestion is that a delegation similar to that sent, in 1988 be named.

I question how such an approach can address the need for encouraging public awareness and debate of the issues facing the Zionist movement today, such as Diaspora, Israel relations and the absorption of Soviet olim, not to mention the peace process.

As a lifelong Labor Zionist I am convinced that "If you will, it is no dream" why then the defeatist attitude?

Why not do the opposite? Open up a truly public debate, including the youngsters who currently don't volunteer their services to the CZF and send a strong, vocal delegation to Jerusalem.

Mordechay Sivak.
Max Sivak
Montreal

Opinion

Community needs all types of Jews

By
RABBI W. GUNTHER PLAUT

There is no national Jewish newspaper in the United States, certainly none that may be called a parallel to the *London Jewish Chronicle* in England or *The Canadian Jewish News* in this country. American communities are served by local papers, and some of them command a large audience.

There is one exception. One weekly does have a national circulation, though it does not reach a mass audience. Its readership is a self-selected clientele among whom rabbis constitute a significant portion.

I refer to the *Jewish Post and Opinion*, published in Indianapolis by my old friend Gabriel Cohen. Its contents are primarily opinion pieces by a great variety of contributors, and among these the editorials by Cohen play an important role.

All of which is an introduction to the headline which caught my eye in the issue of Dec. 11. It read: Could This Be The Greatest Talk You've Ever (Heard) Read? It was followed by a reprint of the address which Rabbi David Hartman of Jerusalem had given to the G.A. in Baltimore. (G.A. is the commonly used abbreviation for General Assembly, the annual convention of the American and Canadian Jewish federations. It is unquestionably North America's most important gathering of community representatives.) I was not present in Baltimore, but apparently Rabbi Hartman's talk was a memorable highlight of the Assembly.

Rabbi Plaut

The rabbi, who is surely one of our most thought-provoking Jewish leaders, addressed himself to one central question: Who can be considered a good Jew?

Are fundraisers who have little Jewish knowledge, but who spend their time and substance on securing the survival of our people, lesser Jews than those who are students and lead what is generally called "a Jewish life." Here's how Rabbi Hartman posed the question:

"There are many Jewish leaders who will devote day and night to the future of the Jewish people, who'll call and cajole congressmen and senators and often embarrass themselves because they want to keep Israel secure. There are people who are driven with the obsession of saving the Jewish people. They build their Jewish identity by that type of involvement."

They are the Jews who don't live their lives by daily mitzvot but by something that they consider the larger vision: serving their people in a concrete, visible way. They *externalize* their Jewishness.

On the other side of the ledger are those who believe that without a Jewish family, without Shabbat, without schools and without a daily awareness of God's presence there will be no future for us. They are the Jews who *internalize* their Judaism.

So, how did Rabbi Hartman rate them? He said: "Those who are moved to save the Jewish people, those whose Jewishness is anchored in Operation Exodus, or Moses, those who experience the thrill of saving 15,000 Jews in one day, those who are nurtured by that large event, are following the words of the living God.

"And there are those who say that there will not be a Jewish community unless there is an intensification of Jewish learning, unless the Jewish family develops greater strength, unless we give the Jewish people ritual, symbolism, a rich identity. Without these, there will be no future, only a living off the great events.

"Then the question is: Whom should you follow? Hartman says, follow both."

(There are local Canadian chapters of the Sholom Hartman Institute, and they may be able to secure for you the full text of the address, should you be interested. The above constitutes only a small excerpt.)

Leading Israel tour made trip fascinating

By
ELAINE KAHN

Late last month, my husband and I spent two weeks in Israel. The contrasts with our last trip, in 1989, couldn't have been starker — this time, marvellously, the hotels were jammed and the restaurants were overflowing (as were many streams and streets, given we hit the worst storm in over four decades).

And, instead of living in a house (as we did in '89), shopping, doing a lot of our own cooking and spending more time with family and friends than sightseeing, we were, for the first time, not only on a tour, but leading it.

There were 27 of us in the group — unlike the two of us, most of the others were on their first trip to Israel. About half the group were kids, five of whom had a joint bar/bat mitzvah service in the synagogue on Masada on Boxing Day. It was a great group: everyone got along (a matter of no small importance when you're stuck with each other for two weeks).

I think of eyes a lot when I look back on the tour: stopped at intersections in East Jerusalem, looking down from the bus into the eyes of Arabs waiting to cross, wondering what they were thinking; the eyes of the Ethiopian Jews at the absorption centre in Karmiel, the glances of the eldest men a little uncomfortable, the shy pride in the eyes of the young adults trying out their new basic Hebrew, the bright eyes of the toddlers and babies; my own eyes never able to drink in enough of the varied physical beauty of that country.

Elaine Kahn

Our group even did its bit to add to the beauty: one morning, we planted trees in the Hadassah Forest in Ein Karem.

This activity had been my biggest worry before leaving Canada — in adulthood, I'd become cynical from too many jokes about silly Diaspora Jews who plant trees or donate money to have trees planted and then come to Israel demanding to see "their" trees. I was worried I wouldn't plant my tree in the right spirit, that I'd lost the little girl inside who'd gotten excited every year in Hebrew school around Tu b'Shevat when the JNF sent cardboard trees which, once filled with her dimes, became trees in Israel. But she wasn't lost.

Many of the places we went to I had visited before. Others were new. Surprisingly, it made little difference — I appreciated the refresher course and made a mental note to include more touring in future visits, to resist my natural inclination to get to Jerusalem and more or less stay there. The only place I can certainly live without visiting yet again is the Museum of the Diaspora in Tel Aviv, a museum built primarily to educate Israelis, but a big tourist attraction nonetheless.

I was very impressed with it my first time. By my second, I was disturbed that it has virtually nothing dating past 1948, thereby equating the birth of Israel with the death of the Diaspora or, at the very least, of anything worthwhile there. By now, I find it unbearable. It reminds me (there's no kind way to say this) of the infamous idea of building museums to document the dead Jewish civilization.

I used to think one trip per lifetime to the Yad Vashem complex was enough — I was wrong. But I didn't go into the main museum this time — I wandered around the grounds, thought a lot, cried, carefully noted the names on the plaques by the trees on the Avenue of Righteous Gentiles and tried not to be swept away by sadness because their names are both few and visible. Yad Vashem has no plaque yet naming the six million.

I imagine all "first timer" tours to Israel are more or less the same: history (as exemplified by most of the "must see" sights) is pervasive, while politics is absent (little opportunity to meet the natives, unless one has friends or family there). People today have too little historical sense, so I'm loathe to suggest this tried-and-true formula be altered a bit, but I will. Because the living miracle of Israel is ultimately more important than the history that produced it.

I'd have traded a military memorial or two for a chance to hear about the Soviet aliyah and the opportunity to walk around Machane Yehuda (Jewish Jerusalem's open air food market). I'd gladly have forgone several ruins for more time to wander around Tiberias or take in a performance of the Israel Philharmonic in Tel Aviv or just walk the streets anywhere, soaking in atmosphere and watching the people.

(Tour agencies might also note that, in this ecologically enthralled age, more nature sights might be included in the itinerary: the nature reserve in Ein Gedi was a high point of the trip for more than one person in our group.)

I enjoyed the trip — heck, I love being in Israel so much that it takes me a day or two there just to believe I'm not dreaming. Luckily, I had a group with me to reintroduce reality.

Many of them made it quite clear that I had to work, because they expected to read about the tour here (yes, Seymour, that includes you). Unfortunately, this just a) made me even more shy than usual; b) made bigger the space between us that already existed because I was attached to the rabbi-cum-tour-leader and c) made me wish I'd brought more paper.

They seemed like people worth knowing, yet how could any of them (except maybe Howard) be themselves around me, when they figured I was taking notes all the time?

I burned the notes.

Argentina refuses to admit war crimes

By
GERALD L. POSNER

At a time when Eastern European and Baltic countries are acknowledging their duty to review their role in the Nazi horrors, Argentina steadfastly refuses to conduct such an examination.

Argentine police files almost certainly include answers to some of the last great World War II mysteries, including the fate of Martin Bormann, Hitler's deputy, and the disposition of hundreds of millions of dollars in treasure looted from Europe and smuggled to South America.

The files may well resolve the controversy over whether Bormann, who oversaw the exodus of the treasure, died in 1945 or escaped to Argentina.

While Bormann, who was born in 1900, doubtless is dead, expert opinion remains divided about his postwar fate.

The basis for concluding that Bormann is dead is a set of bones discovered in Berlin in 1972.

But the forensic examination was slipshod. No German court has certified his death. The Bormann family was so skeptical that they refused to accept the remains.

Besides, eyewitness testimony makes a compelling case for Bormann's escape and survival.

Yet Argentina has steadfastly balked at releasing the Bormann file, much less conducting a soul-searching review of its collaboration with the Third Reich.

Why should a government whose president, Carlos Saul Menem, visited U.S. President George Bush and addressed a joint session of Congress last month, protect the files of war criminals 46 years after the war ended?

During World War II pro-Axis Argentina was the largest listening post for Nazi intelligence outside of Germany.

Bormann directed a German submarine operation whose purpose was to ship death-camp booty to Argentina.

Nazi records show that as much as 550,000 ounces of gold, 3,500 ounces of platinum and 4,638 carats of diamonds, hundreds of works of art as well as millions in gold marks, pounds, dollars and Swiss francs were sent aboard six U-boats to Argentina.

Those boats landed along the coast in 1945.

The Argentine government stills classifies the interrogations of the crew members.

Did Bormann arrive to enjoy the spoils? Or did Peron keep the treasure for himself?

Argentine's files, if not purged, may answer these questions.

In 1984 I was in Buenos Aires researching a biography of Dr. Joseph Mengele, who conducted often fatal experiments on Auschwitz inmates and selected prisoners who were sent to the gas chambers.

The civilian government of President Raul Alfonsin, which had recently replaced the military dictatorship, gave me limited access to the federal police's secret archives.

While reviewing the Mengele folder I noticed a foot-thick file marked "Bormann, Martin." Sources who are apparently reliable say a Bormann dossier also existed at national intelligence headquarters.

In numerous letters to the Menem government, including five to Menem himself (which were never answered, not even perfunctorily or as a courtesy by a lower-ranking aide), I have tried, unsuccessfully, to get the police file on Bormann released.

In October 1990, the federal police rejected the request, citing a 1958 law that protects individuals from the release of any information about them in government files.

How preposterous that a 1958 law is used to shield a Nazi criminal sentenced to death by the military tribunal at Nuremberg!

I hope that during Menem's visit to the United States, especially in New York, those he met made clear their distaste for Argentina's secretiveness about Bormann and its unwillingness to come to terms with its pro-Nazi past.

A first step in this direction would be the release of the Bormann papers. There should be no safe haven for the files of mass murderers.

(Gerald L. Posner is co-author of Mengele: The Complete Story, and author of Hitler's Children.)

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Dictator Peron admired Hitler

The dictator Juan Peron unabashedly admired Hitler.

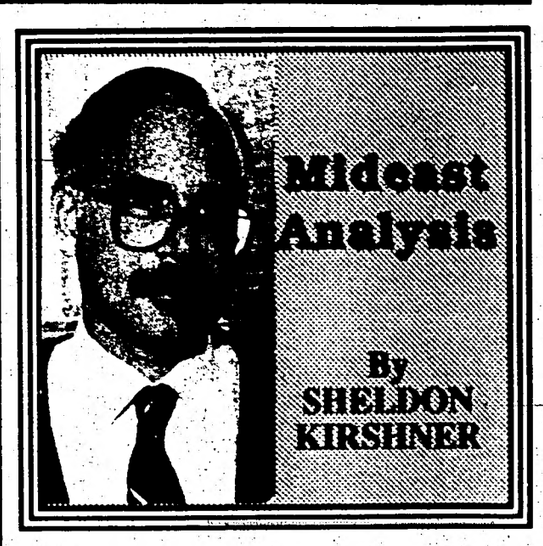
Peron set aside more than 10,000 blank passports and identity cards for Nazi fugitives. Bormann was at the top of the list.

J.B. Flies South

J.B. is paying his annual visit to Florida. His weekly column will resume when he returns; in the meantime we are hoping to receive occasional reports from him.

Features

Israel's nuclear program described



By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

Although it has a nuclear arsenal, Israel has never publicly acknowledged its existence. Israel's standard line is that it will not be the first country to "introduce" atomic weapons into the Middle East.

In 1963, when Israel was well on its way toward becoming a nuclear power, Shimon Peres, the director-general of Israel's defence ministry, met with U.S. President John F. Kennedy. When Kennedy pressed Peres on the issue, the latter replied: "I can tell you forthrightly that we will not introduce atomic weapons into the region. We certainly won't be the first to do so."

Since then, successive Israeli leaders have fallen back on this nebulous, somewhat coy formulation to cloud the issue.

As a result, Israel's nuclear capability is shrouded in a haze of rumors, hearsay and speculation. Seymour Hersh, a noted American journalist, tries in *The Samson Option* (Random House, $28) to make sense of it. Hersh, who won the Pulitzer Prize for international reporting, focuses his attention on Israel's quest to build an A-bomb and U.S. efforts to keep track of its nuclear ambitions.

Since he was loath to submit his manuscript to Israeli censors, Hersh chose not to go to Israel to research the material. He spoke to largely anonymous Israeli sources in the United States and Europe who, he writes, talked to him because of their belief that "a full and open discussion of the Israeli nuclear arsenal... is essential in a democratic society."

It would have been preferable if Hersh had identified all his interlocutors. Nevertheless, *The Samson Option* has a plausible and credible ring to it. There are errors of fact in his book, but they are not serious.

Hersh singles out Ernst David Bergmann — a refugee from Nazi Germany, a rabbi's son and a brilliant organic chemist — as the "scientific father" of Israel's nuclear program. For many years, he was chairman of its Atomic Energy Commission.

Although David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister, firmly believed that a nuclear arsenal was essential to its security, many members of the Israeli elite, Hersh says, were skeptical. Atomic weapons, they argued, were prohibitively expensive and an enormous drain on Israel's scientific and industrial base. Some Israelis were opposed on purely moral grounds.

In the early years, Israel obtained a great deal of technical assistance from France, with which it was bound in an informal alliance. Israel, Hersh claims, had a supply of uranium and some heavy water, the essential building blocks of a nuclear state. Hersh adds that many of the French companies involved in the construction of Israel's reactor would later work for Iraq.

According to Hersh, Israel turned to Diaspora Jews to raise money for the project. Shimon Peres was in charge of the fundraising drive.

Hersh claims that the Dimona facility began to produce nuclear warheads in 1968. The first warhead, he says, had the following phrase welded, in Hebrew and English, onto its exterior: Never Again. By 1973, Israel possessed at least 20 warheads, with three or more missile launchers and a squadron of nuclear-capable F-4 fighters on 24-hour alert.

Hersh quotes Mordecai Vanunu as saying that Israel had more than 100 nuclear weapons by the 1980s. Vanunu, an Israeli technician who had worked in Dimona, sold Israel's nuclear secrets to a British newspaper. Shortly afterward, the Mossad nabbed Vanunu, bringing him back to Israel to stand trial.

* * *

In 1961, Ben-Gurion assured Kennedy that the Dimona reactor was being constructed solely for research purposes, but Kennedy was not convinced. Kennedy, who hewed to a vision of nuclear non-proliferation, believed that a nuclear-armed Israel could threaten Middle East stability and his strong desire for a test-ban treaty with the Soviet Union.

In return for Israel's decision to permit U.S. inspections of the Dimona reactor, Kennedy agreed to authorize the sale of Hawk surface-to-air missiles to Israel. Hersh writes that Israel deceived American inspectors by building a false control room.

Kennedy, he adds, was not fooled. But he did not pursue the matter. Hersh's central argument is that the U.S. has effectively turned a blind eye to Israel's nuclear program since the Eisenhower administration. For example: late in 1967, President Lyndon Johnson was presented with a Central Intelligence Agency estimate of Israeli nuclear capabilities. Hersh says that Johnson ordered CIA director Richard Helms "to bury the report."

Hersh claims that two crises — the Yom Kippur War and the Gulf War — almost prompted Israel to resort to nuclear warfare. The first allegation is not new, *Time* magazine having reported it several years ago. The second disclosure amounts to a scoop.

Hersh contends that Jonathan Pollard, the American Jew now serving a life sentence for espionage, was a key figure in Israel's nuclear program. Hersh says he gathered nuclear targeting data on the location of Soviet military targets. Implausibly, however, he claims that on the instructions of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Israeli intelligence officials supplied copies of some of Pollard's documents to the Soviet Union. Hersh's explanation is that Shamir wanted to improve relations with Moscow.

There is at least one misleading statement, and some minor mistakes, in *The Samson Option:*

- Since when did Israel agree to withdraw from Sinai in 1957 in exchange for French help to build a nuclear reactor?
- Ephraim Evron was not Israel's ambassador to the U.S. in 1968. And his nickname was Eppie, not Effy.
- Afghanistan never had a "large" Jewish community.

Despite these factual blunders, *The Samson Option* is on balance a fine, engrossing account of a major facet of Israel's security profile. Until something better comes along, it will serve as the definitive popular work on the subject.

Shimon Peres (centre) played a role in Israel's nuclear program.

Cuban Jews make it in Miami

By
MARILYN MARKS

Most Jewish politicians in Miami Beach quake at the realization that their once-Jewish city is now half Hispanic. Not Abe Resnick.

Resnick, a member of the city commission in Miami Beach, demonstrates how Cuban Jews have fared during three decades in South Florida.

"I call myself the voice of the Hispanics," says Resnick, one of the most successful politicians in Miami Beach. He placades his constituents in Yiddish or Spanish — whatever it takes in a city where, roughly speaking, the population is divided evenly between Jews and Hispanics.

Henry Green, director of Jewish studies at the University of Miami, says that about 12,000 Cuban Jews now live in and around Miami. Some ended up in Israel, a few in Canada and Mexico. An estimated 600 Jews remain in Cuba.

Like others who fled Cuba in the 1960s, the Jews tend to be educated, prosperous, politically conservative and strongly anti-Castro. They include some well-known Miami personalitiess. George Feldenkreis arrived from Havana with $700 and a useless law degree, and now runs an auto parts importing business with more than 200 employees. David Egozi founded a shoe company within months of his arrival. He now has 1,500 workers making 60,000 pairs of shoes daily. Abel Holtz, a top banker, helped build up Miami and Miami Beach.

Most immigrants are more anonymous and less wealthy, but many have prospered as retailers, jewelers, professionals and importers who capitalized on language and business connections with Latin America.

The Jewish community of Cuba was born at the turn of the century when American Jews began to settle there in the wake of the 1898 Spanish-American War. Soon after, Jews started coming from Turkey and the Arab world. The community was reinforced in the 1930s and 40s by refugees from Europe. By the time Castro took over in January 1959, Cuba's Jews had achieved middle-class status. Synagogues and Jewish organizations flourished. When the Cuban middle-class fled, the Jews went along.

Over the years, the Cuban Jews have drawn closer to the wider Jewish community of Greater Miami (about 250,000). But they maintain a distance from the growing numbers of Jewish immigrants from other Latin American countries.

"We took a whole community and moved it here," says Feldenkreis. "They (the Latins from Central and South America) came as businessmen and investors."

"We are close to the American-Jewish community, but we really feel Cuban," says architect Isaac Sklar, who heads the Cuban division of Miami's Israel Bonds drive. He taught architecture at the University of Havana until he fled in 1961.

Sklar and the others also have social and business relationships with non-Jewish Cubans in Miami, playing leadership roles in exile organizations and Cuban business groups, and donating money for Cuban artistic and political causes. In local politics, they tend to vote for other Cubans — like the City of Miami's first Cuban-born mayor, Xavier Suarez — or other Jews.

For his part, Resnick plays up his Cuban ties and calls himself Hispanic — even though he only spent 13 years on the island as a refugee from Lithuania after World War II. As a Jewish-American, he got Miami Beach to build a Holocaust memorial; as a Cuban-American, he says, he helps shepherd Spanish-speaking residents through the city's bureaucracy.

In national politics, most Cuban Jews — like other Cubans but unlike other Jews — vote Republican in national elections. In 1989 Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, a Republican Roman Catholic, faced Democrat Jerry Richman, a Jew, in a special congressional election. Richman got the black and Jewish votes. Ros-Lehtinen got the Hispanic vote — including the Hispanic-Jewish vote — and won.

But changes are in the air. Cuban Jews, who once lived almost exclusively in Miami Beach, are now dispersed over South Florida. Many families now maintain two synagogue memberships — one with a local synagogue, where children attend religious school and parents go to services, and another at one of the two Cuban synagogues on Miami Beach, where they keep in touch with their Cuban-Jewish ties.

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Despite its preoccupation with pressing internal problems, and its desire to open lines of communication with the West, Iran is trying to scuttle the Arab-Israeli peace process.

Although it is aware of the West's strong desire for peace to the Middle East, Iran is playing the role of spoiler.

And perversely enough, the militantly Islamic fundamentalist regime is doing this at a time when it is rebuilding after a destructive eight-year war with Iraq and wooing Western trade partners and investors in a bid to revitalize its economy.

Iran has been credited with helping gain the release of British and American hostages in Lebanon (but not the freedom of Israeli navigator Ron Arad, whom it reportedly holds.) Yet Iran, by supporting rejectionist Arab elements which oppose the very idea of direct Arab-Israeli talks, is undermining its self-proclaimed policy of forging a rapprochement with the West.

Iran's anti-Israel stance dates back to the 1979 Islamic revolution, which ousted the pro-Western Pahlavi monarchy and installed the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in power. Teheran's anti-Israel rhetoric has survived the end of the Iran-Iraq War in 1988, the death of Khomeini in 1989 and the Gulf War in 1991.

It's clear that the virulent anti-Zionist strain of the Islamic revolution remains intact, notwithstanding the shipment of arms to Iran by Israel during the 1980s, in what came to be known as the Iran-Contra scandal.

Iran not only denounces the Arab-Israeli peace process. It actively supports Palestinian and Lebanese Shi'ite groups which are unreconciled to Israel's existence.

The Iranians, for example, back Ahmed Jabril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, General Command — which, Israel believes, planted the bomb aboard doomed Pan Am Flight 103 in December 1988. Analysts claim that Iran was retaliating for the accidental downing by U.S. forces of an Iranian civilian aircraft in the Persian Gulf.

Rejectionist Iran

Iran, too, is fully behind Hezbollah, or the Party of God, which has taken the lead in attacking Israeli soldiers in Israel's self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon. The number of such attacks increased dramatically after the convening of the Middle East peace conference in Madrid last October. They are expected to continue in 1992.

According to a recent report, Iran has funnelled $86 million (U.S.) to Hezbollah to attack Israeli and U.S. targets in the region. Moshe Arens, Israel's minister of defence, says that Hezbollah has acquired a high level of technological proficiency thanks to Iranian assistance.

On a broader level, Arens adds, Iran is cooperating militarily with Libya. Arens has disclosed that Israel is preparing itself against the threat of chemical and nuclear warfare posed by Iran, as well as Libya and Iraq.

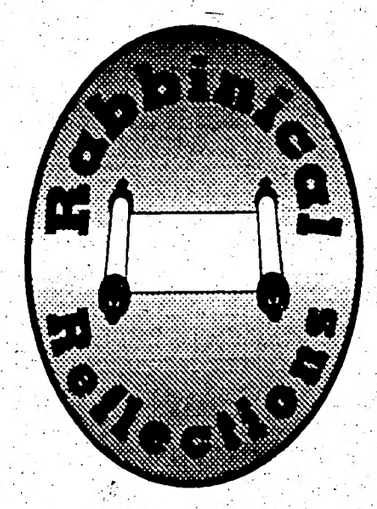
On the eve of last October's Mideast parley in Madrid, Iran invited 400 delegates from 60 countries to attend a conference in Teheran to counter it. Iran's president, Hashemi Rafsanjani, who has been widely characterized as a moderate within the context of Iranian politics, was vehement in excoriating the peace process and Israel.

In one inflammatory sentence, he said it all: "The United States is seeking today to save Israel and eradicate Palestinian aspirations by crushing half a century of struggle by the Palestinian people in the name of peace. It is seeking the recognition by Arab and Muslim states of *the illegitimate state of Israel.*"

Lest he be misunderstood, Rafsanjani further declared, "History proves that Israel cannot continue to exist in this region."

But the Iranians saved their venom not only for Israel. One of the most important figures in the Teheran regime, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, bitterly criticized Arab countries, including old ally Syria, which have participated in the Madrid process.

Until quite recently, Iran and Syria were bound in a strategic alliance, born during the Iran-Iraq War. But since President Hafez Assad's decision to enter into face-to-face negotiations with Israel, Syria's relationship with Iran has cooled considerably.



By
RABBI LAWRENCE PERLMAN

The commandments of the Torah are legendary. They come in positive and negative forms. "You shall not murder." "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." "Do not boil a kid in its mother's milk." are just a few of the well-known examples connected to justice, the Sabbath and kashrut respectively.

Many Jews are aware of these well-known mitzvot and practise them assiduously. Without a doubt we probably have, even if we don't admit it, our favorite mitzvot (my favorite mitzvah happens to be the sounding of the shofar on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, which I carry out in my synagogue).

While we are all obliged to obey each of God's mitzvot, some of us take special pleasure and are more zealous in the observance of some mitzvot, without excluding others. I have met people who are consumed with the mitzvah of tzedakah. Others I know are immersed in the study of Torah and some may be totally enraptured by kashrut and the Sabbath.

There is one mitzvah which appears in this week's Torah reading and receives little, if any, attention in these times we live in. The Torah tells us in the book of Shemot, chapter 22, verse 20: "You shall not wrong a stranger or oppress him." By many indications this is not a popular mitzvah. I have never heard anyone talk about it, claim it as important or speak about the need to make it part of the reality of life in the land of Israel.

Many outwardly religious people go to great lengths to keep kosher and to sanctify the Sabbath, as they should, yet I haven't found much religious zeal when it comes to the treatment of strangers. Perhaps I am looking in the wrong places, but much of what I see flies in the face of this mitzvah. For some reason, many people speak and act as if it has been suspended. They seem to think they have a right to mistreat others who are not Jews. Regardless of one's political leanings, the treatment of strangers in the land of Israel leaves something to be desired.

There is no irony, but only razor sharp perception on behalf of the rabbis in the Talmud, who in their characteristic way, calmly point out that the Torah would be shocked at the mistreatment of strangers. They draw our attention (Baba Mezia 59b) to the fact that the Torah warns us against oppressing the stranger no less than 36 times. Few if any mitzvahs we practise, or should practise today, receive this kind of attention in the Torah.

Why have we departed from the meaning and significance of this mitzvah? Why do we believe that they who are really religious are the ones who take kashrut to an extreme or who are so concerned about profaning the Sabbath that they only worry about its restrictions? Some people are consumed with the supervision of what they eat yet are totally unaware of the oppression of strangers in their homeland. They demand eternal vigilance over food but blind eyes to the sufferings of others.

The second half of the verse tells us more than many are willing to hear. After the Torah prohibits the mistreatment of strangers it reminds us: . . . "for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." Your experience of suffering and affliction should always be a reminder to you. You know what it means to suffer as a stranger and you should have learned just how painful it is when you oppress the stranger in your land.

We can always try to rationalize the oppression that people experience because of our actions. Anything can be validated, but the Torah is emphatic. We are commanded not to treat the stranger as someone totally removed from ourselves, someone whose humanity we can't identify with, but to see the stranger as we ourselves were seen and to sympathize with his suffering which is identical to the suffering we experienced.

Rabbi Lawrence Perlman is rabbi at Shaare Zion Congregation in Montreal.

Muslims, Jews work together

NEW YORK (JTA) —

Amid all the attention and media coverage that was recently lavished on Arab-Jewish relations in the context of the Middle East peace process, a substantive cooperative project between Arabs and Jews has quietly been taking place in the United States.

Muslim and Jewish leaders met recently with administrators of the U.S. Steel Company in Pittsburgh to discuss problems that have recently been uncovered regarding the materials used in steel manufacturing.

Accordingly to Dr. Avrom Pollak, president of the Star-K Kosher Certification organization in Baltimore, animal-based lubricants are applied during the process of tempering, or hardening, steel used in the production of steel drums, containers and tin cans.

These lubricants, many of which contain lard, Pollack explained, raise questions under the strict dietary requirements of both Muslims and Jews.

But, under Jewish law, if the non-kosher substance represents one-sixtieth or less of the total volume of all the ingredients, the non-kosher substance is nullified by the kosher ingredients and the product may be permissible.

Relying on this provision, Pollak said the lubricants used in steel manufacturing are of such small quantities that even if they contain animal fats, the steel products are nevertheless acceptable under Jewish dietary requirements.

"No one says the food products (packaged in steel containers) are not kosher," Pollak stressed. "But if we have an opportunity to improve the kashrut, and not rely on an allowance in the law, and the steel companies are completely amenable, why shouldn't we go ahead with it? How can we not?"

Rabbi Menachem Genack, head of kashrut at the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, agrees that although this is not a pressing concern, "if we can correct any problem that may exist, we correct it. We always look to raise kosher standards."

The problem was first discovered two years ago when an employee of the Skolnik Industries, a steel manufacturer, brought it to the attention of Rabbi Jonah Gewirtz, chairman of Certified Shipping Packaging Transport, Inc., of Silver Spring, Md.

This organization, CSPT, was established to indentify and certify food and beverage container materials that comply with the religious and health-related standards of Jewish, Islamic, Seventh Day Adventist and other groups.

"At first it seemed ludicrous," Gewirtz said. "You don't expect steel to be non-kosher, so it was something that went easily overlooked for so long."

After many inquiries and investigations into the various steel companies, Gewirtz found that animal-based lubricants were routinely used in the production of steel.

Once the facts were confirmed, he contacted major kosher certification organizations, including Halal, the Muslim equivalent.

"NACHAS"

BY MIRIAM LANAIL

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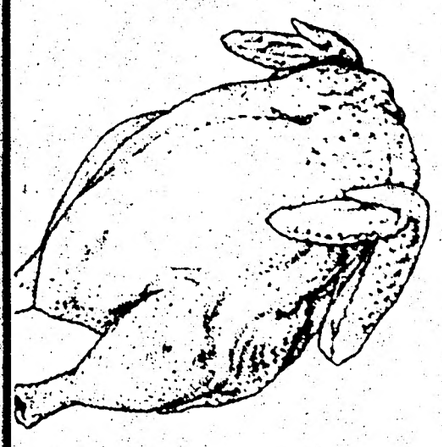

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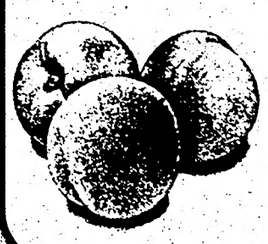

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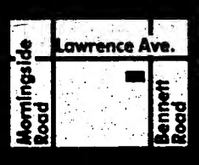

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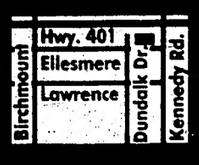

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Organizations and People

JF&CS seeks foster homes

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —
Jewish Family & Child Service is appealing to the community for families it can call on in case a home is needed for a foster child right away.

The agency's list of Jewish families it can fall back on in the event of an emergency is down to zero, says Shirley Feld, co-ordinator of foster care.

That means if a Jewish foster child needed placing now, he or she would have to stay put, Feld says.

"We're not asking families to take in a foster child right away. We're on the lookout for families we can call in case we need them to take in a child, even if it's just for a few days," she told *The CJN*.

JF&CS still finds itself having to tell the Jewish community that not only is there a need for Jewish foster homes, but that Jewish foster children exist at all.

They come from all walks of life, Feld noted; either from families that cannot or will not care for them or from broken homes.

They find themselves in a sort of social no man's land: usually, there is no permanent plan for them, such as adoption, and they must rely on temporary care. A private home, with other children in a Jewish environment, is seen as an infinitely better alternative than provincially-run group homes, where children are wards of the Crown.

Caring for foster children isn't easy, Feld stressed.

For one, an average one-seventh of them are classified as "special needs": those who have behavioural problems or are emotionally, developmentally or physically disabled.

These children require special attention and JF&CS wants special families for them. Experience in dealing with difficult kids is essential, Feld said.

The agency has about 30 foster kids in private, mostly kosher, homes. They range in age from infancy to 16 years and can stay with a family anywhere from a day to adulthood.

JF&CS also runs the Goodman Home on Wilmington Avenue, where a professional cares for four Jewish foster children.

Foster parents receive a provincial stipend of $24 per child per day. All children attend school, either in regular or special classes.

Between 1982 and 1989, the number of children in care of Children's Aid Societies declined by 15 per cent. But during the same period, the number of available foster families dropped by 26 percent, JF&CS figures show.

According to Eric Kirsh of JF&CS, adopting a foster child can be complicated. A child can only be adopted if his natural parents have no legal access to him. And that's just the first stage of a long, complex process.

The agency has also received a number of alerts in the past few months.

Alerts are sounded when a foster family is either at the breaking point or has burned out caring for a child.

That's why, Feld said, JF&CS also needs families for its respite care program, which provides temporary relief for foster as well as natural parents who need a break.

Anyone interested is asked to call JF&CS at (416) 638-7800.

Hutner headed Welfare Fund

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —
Florence Hutner, who guided the United Jewish Welfare Fund through problem-filled war and postwar years as its executive director in the 1940s and beyond, died Jan. 6 at Baycrest Hospital at the age of 84.

She was the first woman to head a major Jewish organization in Canada.

Though she retired from this post in 1964, after more than 20 years, she kept active in Jewish affairs as the executive secretary of the joint committee on community organizations of the Canadian Jewish Congress and the Canadian committee of the Council of Jewish Federations.

She did not marry until 1974 when she was 67. In that year, she married Arthur Rosichan, a widower, who was her counterpart in Montreal, and who predeceased her. They operated bookstores in Coral Gables and Miami after retiring from their jobs in Canada.

Hutner moved back to Toronto three years ago following her husband's death, and suffered a stroke about a year ago.

Florence Hutner

She was born in New York in 1907. Her father, Herman, had been one of the original pioneers in Palestine. Her mother was the former Pauline Cooper. When the family moved to Toronto, Hutner's father was associated with the Cooper Cap Co.

She graduated from the University of Toronto with a BA in the late 1920s, received an MA in English from Columbia University and took a one-year course in social work in Chicago.

"She was tremendously admired by all professionals in the field," said Ben Kayfetz, a former co-worker. "She was a real disciplinarian. Grown men used to tremble in anticipation of a dressing down from her."

At the graveside service in Holy Blossom cemetery, it was announced that a memorial service will be held in the spring.

Celebrity auction set

TORONTO —
Leah Posluns Theatre will hold its **3rd Annual Great Celebrity Gamble and Auction,** Saturday, Feb. 22.

Guest can try their luck at Las Vegas style black jack, money wheels, over and under 7 and crown and anchor from 6:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. For the more faint at heart there's the super door prize.

Tickets are $10 per person redeemable for $5 in chips at the door. All proceeds are directed to **Special Youth Projects.**

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252 Finch Avenue West, Willowdale
6100 Leslie Street, Willowdale
Promenade Court, Thornhill
Please join us on
Tuesday, February 6, 7:30 p.m.
at the
Nathan O. & Roey Hurwich Education Centre
252 Finch Avenue West, Willowdale, Ont.
Come and learn about the aims and objectives of our school
Refreshments served *All parents invited*

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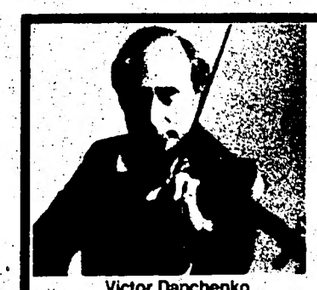
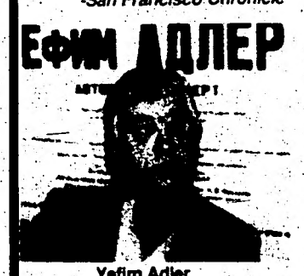

Victor Danchenko
"...a colorful, multi-faceted violinist literally enchants the audience."
-Ulyanovskaya Pravda

Yuli Turovsky
"A cellist who plays like a one-man orchestra."
-San Francisco Chronicle



Yefim Adler
"...a world-class talent... a prolific composer...whose compositions are filled with imagery."
-The Canadian Jewish News

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Hebrew Music on Jewish Themes
Wednesday, February 12, 8 p.m.
University of Western Ontario Symphony Orchestra
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Music Composed By
Yefim Adler
Ernest Bloch
Sergey Prokofiev
Dimitri Shostakovich

Jerome Summers
Conductor

Vera Kaushansky
Soprano

Julia Malinowsky
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WRITTEN BY LEM DOBBS PRODUCED BY STUART CORNFELD AND HARRY BENN DIRECTED BY STEVEN SODERBERGH
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Organizations and People

What's New

By
MIRIAM CHINSKY

DEADLINE REMINDER

Please note that the deadline for What's New and About People is Thursday, two weeks prior to publication date (i.e. Thursday, Jan. 30 is deadline for Feb. 13 issue,and Thursday, Feb. 6, is deadline for Feb. 20 issue).

Also, please remember that I am at my desk on Thursdays only to receive your calls and sort my mail.

Saturday, Feb. 1

VILLAGE SHUL AUCTION

Going once..going twice..You are invited to bid on a "Phantom Weekend" (two nights in the Cambridge Suites Hotel plus two tickets to *Phantom of the Opera*, family portraits, handmade Jewish ceremonial objects, Blue Jay tickets, plus much more), at the first annual Village Shul Fundraising Auction, 884 Eglinton Ave. W., Saturday, Feb. 1. Preview of prizes starts at 8 p.m. Auction runs 8:30-11 p.m.

Music, refreshments, goodies, door prizes. Admission, $10, includes chance at door prize.

For more information, call 481-2383.

BETH TIKVAH FAMILY SHABBAT

Storyteller **Peninnah Schram** highlights Beth Tikvah Sisterhood Family Shabbat and helps the congregation celebrate Sephardic Heritage Year, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, at 3080 Bayview Ave. - between Sheppard and Finch. (Adults and children over 10). Cost is $5.

COMEDY EVENING

Laugh, laugh, laugh! The newly formed chapter of the Sephardic Educational Centre of Toronto presents a star-studded evening of comedy featuring performers from CBC Midday, Yuk Yuk's and other great sources, 8.30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1 at Tiferet Israel Congregation, 756 Sheppard Ave. W. Admission is $5.

For additional information, call **Jeff,** 738-7907.

TEMPLE SINAI MUSICAL LEGACY

In observance of Jewish Music Month, Temple Sinai's Chevrat Torah service, 8.15 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, moves into the sanctuary where **Cantor Severin Weingort** and the Temple Sinai Choir directed by **Ben Steinberg,** provide traditional Shabbat music.

Sunday, Feb. 2

HABONIM BREAKFAST CLUB

At 10 a.m. Sunday Feb. 2, Congregation Habonim's Breakfast Club, 5 Glen Park (Bathurst and Glencairn), cordially invites you to hear storyteller **Alec Gelcer,** whose topic is, For A Change, Not About Tevye - stories of life in the shtetl. Cost for breakfast and lecture is $6.

KORTWRIGHT WINTER CARNIVAL

There's fun for the whole family including games, guided walks, tugs of war and the annual 12 noon groundhog prediction, at the Kortwright Centre Groundhog Winter Carnival, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 2. For information, call 832-2289.

HOLY BLOSSOM BREAKFAST CLUB

Holy Blossom Temple Brotherhood Breakfast Club, 1950 Bathurst St., welcomes you to its next meeting, 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 2, when **Rabbi Lewis Barth,** Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, will discuss, Rediscovering Tradition, Brit Milah and Issues of Reform Jewish Identity.

STORY HOUR

On Sunday, Feb. 2, Temple Kol Ami sponsors a Story Hour featuring **Aubrey Davis.** From Wibbleton to Wobbleton, a program guaranteed to enchant kids from infancy to 8 years, takes place 3:45 p.m. at Leo Baeck Day School, 34 Kenton Dr. Tickets $3. The audience is encouraged to bring blankets and pillows.

For further information, call 222-4141, evenings.

SPORTSCARD SHOW

National Council of Jewish Women's next monthly Sportscard Show is slated for 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 2 at 4700 Bathurst St

JEWISH HUMOR BRUNCH

Young Leadership of Beit Halochem - Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel - offers a delicious brunch with humorist/author **Allan Gould,** who will speak on Jewish Humor, at noon, Sunday, Feb. 2 in the party room, 47 St. Clair Ave. W.

All you can eat for $12. Call 630-4031 to reserve, as space is limited.

BETH TZEDEC MEN'S CLUB

Different Backgrounds, Similar Future, will be examined when **Sarah Case,** executive director of The Canada Israel Gesher Foundation, addresses Beth Tzedec Men's Club, Sunday, Feb. 2 at the synagogue, 1700 Bathurst St. Breakfast (nominal charge) is 9:30 a.m., talk at 10. Everyone is welcome.

ALIYAH

The Aliyah Delegation in North America is promoting an absorption project for North American olim in Nes Tziona, 15 miles from Tel Aviv. You are invited to a special aliyah meeting with **Nissan Krupsky,** mayor of Nes Tsiona, 8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 2 at 3910 Bathurst St., Suite 203.

For more details and to RSVP, call 633-4766.

SHAAREI SHOMAYIM BROTHERHOOD

TTC:Definitely the Better Way, is the contention of **Joel Miller,** manager, project administration, Toronto Transit Commission, who will present a video and talk at Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood Breakfast Club meeting, 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 2 in the shul, 470 Glencairn Ave. W. The public is invited. No admission charge.

HOLOCAUST

Dr. Dan Mickman will speak to the parent group of Hillel Children's Workshop on The Holocaust and its Lasting Effects, 10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 2 at New College, University of Toronto, 40 Willcocks St., Room 523, lower level.

All adults are welcome. Admission is free. For more information on children's programs or this special adult session, call **Dale,** 484-0045.

Monday, Feb 3

JEWISH DIABETES CHAPTER

Self-Care Techniques: Diabetes, will be explained by **Dr. Gerald Wong** of St. Michael's Hospital, at a meeting of the Jewish Diabetes Chapter, 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 3 at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, 470 Glencairn Ave. W. Exhibits and Purim recipes for diabetics.

Admission $1. Everyone welcome. Please bring your Miracle Mart tapes. For additional information, contact **Esther,** 782-2176 or **Shirley,** 225-1989.

MODERN CHALLENGES TO JUDAISM

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am and Adath Israel Congregations are presenting a joint adult education lecture series on The Challenges to Jews and Judaism in the Modern Age, with **Prof. Arnold Ages,** beginning Monday, Feb. 3 at 8 p.m. The opening lecture will be at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am, 55 Yeomans Rd. The topic will be Jews and The Catholic Church.

Tuesday, Feb. 4

LIVING JEWISH SPIRIT

On Tuesday, Feb. 4, at 8 p.m. in Bathurst Heights Public Library, 3170 Bathurst St., (just north of Lawrence Plaza), the Association for the Living Jewish Spirit will hold a discussion session on What Do You Say to Children When They Intermarry?

All are welcome to attend the sessions. For further information, call **Rabbi Reuben Slonim,** 789-2876.

T'NACH STUDY GROUP

The Tuesday, Feb. 4 session of the T'nach Study Group will focus on the Book of Samuel, Part II, Chapter XVIII, with **Irving Matlow.** The group meets 8:15 p.m. at Associated Hebrew School, 3630 Bathurst St.

HOLY BLOSSOM STUDY GROUP

Take Back the Waters: A Re-examination of Mikveh, with **Rabbi Elyse Goldstein,** will be the subject for the Feb. 4 meeting of the Holy Blossom Study Group, 9:45-11:30 a.m. at the temple, 1950 Bathurst St.

Wednesday, Feb. 5

LUNCH AND LEARN

Writer and professor, **Eric Koch,** will discuss The Experience of Returning to Frankfurt, at the gathering of Lunch and Learn in Retirement, 12 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 5 at Holy Blossom Temple. Bring your lunch. Tea, coffee and cookies are provided. Call **Deborah,** 789-3291, if you need or can offer transportaton.

MANIC-DEPRESSIVE ASS'N

Family Interaction and Relapse with respect to Depression and Manic-Depression, will be explored when **Dr. Judith Levene,** professor of social work at Wilfrid Laurier University, addresses a meeting of the Manic-Depressive Association of Metropolitan Toronto, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5 at 40 Orchard View Blvd., Room 224, A,B and C. All are welcome.

For information about support groups call the office, 486-8046.

ROSH CHODESH LUNCHEON

Usher in Adar at the elegantly catered Ohr Somayach Rosh Chodesh Luncheon featuring the Kol Rina Singers with **Nomi Isenberg** and her choir, Wednesday, Feb. 5 at 613 Clark Ave. W. Luncheon starts promptly at 12:45 p.m. and reservations are essential. Call 886-5730. No charge for babysitting.

Thursday, Feb. 6

SELF PROTECTION

Self Protection, with **Debbie Parent,** to be presented 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6 at Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St., is the first in a series of three workshops sponsored by the social and political action committee of Jewish Women's Federation.

Admission is $5. To RSVP and inquire further, call 635-2883, ext. 135.

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC AT BBYO

A Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic is scheduled for 2-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6 at BBYO (B'nai Brith Youth Organization), 15 Hove St.

TEMPLE HAR ZION SISTERHOOD

Thomas Friedman's national book award winner, *From Beirut to Jerusalem*, will be reviewed by **Rabbi Michael Stroh,** 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6 at Temple Har Zion, 7360 Bayview Ave., Thornhill. Everyone is welcome.

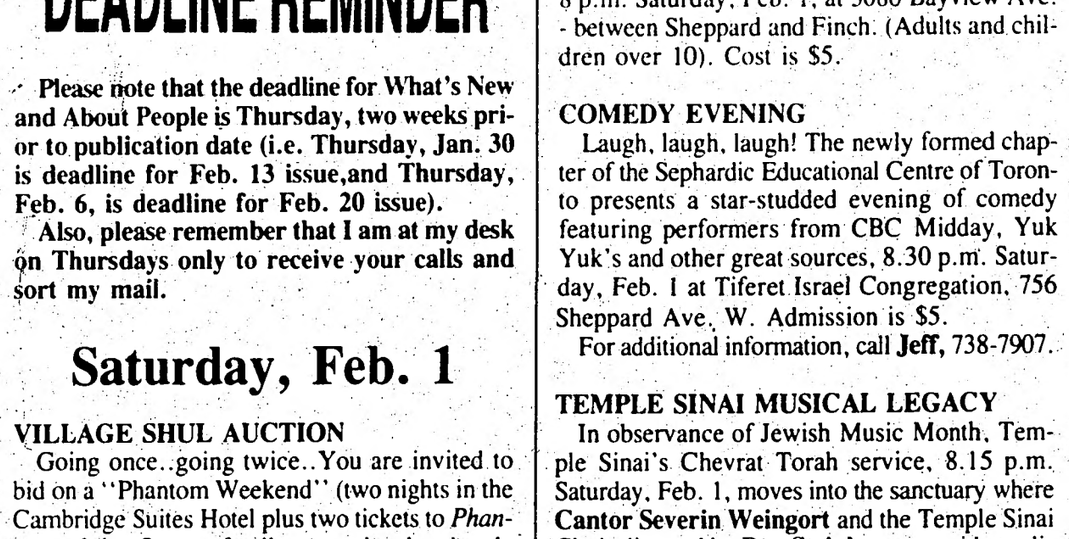
FOREST HILL LIBRARY

Films at Forest Hill Library, 700 Eglinton Ave. W., 1.30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6, include *Dream Houses* (1986), *The Nature of Robert Bateman, National Parks of Utah*. Free admission.

B'NAI BRITH ROMANIAN LODGE

Continuing a cycle on the cultural contribution

[Cont'd. on page 21]



MARKETPLACE SALE

Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary's annual Marketplace Sale raised $106,000, smashing previous records. Sharing the enthusiasm and support which make the event a highlight of the year are (from left) Barbara Bregman and Renee Gozlan, Marketplace co-chairmen; Fran Binder, Mt. Sinai Hospital Auxiliary president; Lynda Latner, vice-president; Anna Koffler, Marketplace vice-chairman.

CHAT TALENT SHOW

CHAT (Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto) Talent Show producers (from left, standing) David Holland, Solomon Birenbaum and Risa Rochwerg, present cheques to (from left, seated) Sharon Haberman of the Dr. Ronald Feld Fund for Syrian Jewry; Roz Davidson of Operation Exodus and Karen Wirsig of the Hospital for Sick Children. The show, sponsored by the student council, raised more than $2,500 for tzedakah.

NEW SCHOOL

Standing in front of a sign announcing the opening of the Leo Back Day School, Holy Blossom Campus, are Rabbi Steven Garten, director; Hinda Weksberg, president, board of trustees; Nancy Ruth, president, Holy Blossom Temple; Robert Tornberg, principal, Holy Blossom campus.

Organizations and People

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 20]

of Romanian Jews, Dr. W. Filderman Lodge, B'nai Brith, welcomes you to a lecture (in Romanian) on The Jewish Theatre, Yesterday and Today, with actor/director/author, **Lica Avron,** 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6 at the BBYO building, 15 Hove St.

FOREST HILL PLACE

The New Power of Germany and The German Design for Europe, will be considered by **Dr. Morton Manilla,** in the first of a three-part lecture series on international relations, 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6 at Forest Hill Place Retirement Residence, 645 Castlefield Ave. Reserve early as space is limited. Contact **Marlene White,** 785-1511.

AND WHAT ELSE IS NEW...

FAMILY MONTE CARLO

Beth Sholom Synagogue, 1445 Eglinton Ave. W., welcomes you to its first Family Monte Carlo Night with games, prizes, a light dinner and the wildest auction in town! All this starts at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8. For more information, call 783-6103.

JEWISH INFORMATION VOLUNTEERS

Jewish Information Service, 4600 Bathurst St., is looking for men and women to assist in various portfolio areas, e.g. public relations, volunteer recruitment, distress and crisis intervention, and budget. As well, you could be asked to serve on the overall advisory committee.

There is also a need for a senior level JIS phone volunteer, willing to learn how to access information in the new FoxBaseMac computerized file system.

If interested and for details, contact **Joel Verbin** or leave a message with a volunteer at 635-5600, from 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

SHALOM VILLAGE, HAMILTON

Here are some February highlights at Shalom Village, 70 Macklin St., Hamilton:

Tuesday, Feb. 11, at 2:30 p.m., **Rabbi Bernard Baskin** will speak.

Tuesday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m., the Jewish Community Centre screens a film, *The Dybbuk*.

Wednesday Feb. 12, at 7:30 p.m., **Dr. Richard Allen** will present A Day in the Life.

Thursday, Feb. 18, at 2:30 p.m., **Dr. Daniel Stevenson** talks about chiropractic.

Friday, Feb. 21 at 2:30 p.m., **Rabbi Zeplowitz** will conduct a Shabbat service.

For additional information, call **Susan Mills,** 528-5377.

TEMPLE ISRAEL, LONDON.

Circle your calendars for Temple Israel's Fun Auction, Saturday, Feb. 8. Tickets, $7.50 each, (including dessert, wine and cheese), are available from all auction committee members or call **Jeff Phillips,** 471-8329.

A congregational seder is planned for the second night of Passover, Saturday, April 18. Call **Judi Stoller,** 668-0990 or **Janet Merrill,** 642-2203, as soon as possible if you would like to attend.

BAYCREST SYNAGOGUE SERVICES

Baycrest Terrace Synagogue, 55 Ameer Ave., holds Shacharit services weekdays at 8:30 a.m. and also Mincha, Maariv (for times call **David** at 256-1600). Everyone is welcome.

For further information, call the above number.

RODAK ART EXHIBIT

An exhibition of watercolors, acrylics and mixed media by Jean Rodack runs from Feb. 1-29 (yes, it's Leap Year) at Hillcrest Public Library, 5801 Leslie St. (north of Finch). For information call 395-5830 or 638-2502.

SHAAREI TEFILLAH LECTURES

Rabbi Moshe Stern of Shaarei Tefillah Congregation, 3600 Bathurst St., has resumed the lecture series on Jewish History (from the Middle Ages to the present), Tuesday evenings at 8 p.m. Everyone is invited.

NAME CHANGE

The United Synagogue of America - the association of Conservative congregations in North America - has formally changed its name to the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. This change was unanimously ratified at the recent biennial convention held at the Concord Hotel, Kiamesha Lake, New York. The Ontario delegation was headed by regional president **Jules Surdin.**

JEWS OF SPAIN

The year 1492 was important to **Christopher Columbus.** For others, it held more ominous significance. Shaar Shalom Synagogue Adult Education, 2 Simonston Blvd., Thornhill, invites you to a two-part lecture series on The Jews of Spain and how the Inquisition changed their lives, by **Rabbi Yehiel Benayon** of Magen David Sephardic Congregation.

At 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 3, he will discuss pre-Inquisition. On Feb. 10 at 8 p.m., he will examine post-Inquisition.

Refreshments will be served. To inquire further, call 889-4975.

PALLIATIVE CARE COURSE

A six-week training program for volunteers interested in working with the terminally ill will be offered on Tuesday evenings starting at 7, Feb. 18-March 24. Please contact volunteer services, Toronto Grace Hospital, Bloor and Church, 925-2251, ext. 256/7.

BOOK REVIEW

Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood sponsors a review by **Elaine Newton,** of **Amy Tan's** recent book, The Kitchen God's Wife, Wednesday Feb. 26. Coffee is at 7:45 p.m. with prompt start at 8 o'clock. Fee is $6 Sisterhood members, $12 non-members. Reservations are required. Call **Olivia,** 789-3291.

MASHEL TEITELBAUM

The 1960s Abstraction, a **Mashel Teitelbaum** retrospective, is at the Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, Hart House, University of Toronto, Feb. 6-March 5.

JEWISH FAMILY & CHILD SERVICE

Jewish Family and Child Service is offering the following workshops:

Adoption Preparation (begins Thursday, Feb. 13);

Mid Life Separation and Divorce (starts Feb. 5);

Losing a Parent as an Adult and

Widows and Widowers Group (to begin Jan. 30).

For details concerning fees and registration, call **Pat Lieberman,** 638-7800, ext. 215.

at the JCC

Call the JCC Singles Hotline 889-5101 for 24-hour taped information of events at the JCC and around the city.

Singles Connection, call **Nurit,** 889-0813 for updated information on the lecture series and dances at the North/East Valley.

The Get Fit class (10 weeks), Tuesdays and/or Fridays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. continues into March at the N/E Valley party room, 7015 Leslie St. For details, call Nurit, 889-0813.

N/E Valley branch offers adult duplicate bridge every Monday evening, 7:30-11 p.m. Cost is $3 per session. For members only. To inquire, call Nurit, 889-0813.

Find out about Bloor's Theatre Goers, a group for 33-45-year-olds. To get on the mailing list and for more information, call **Luni,** 924-6211.

for seniors

Older adults are needed for an **Intergenerational Pen-Pal Program.** Develop a special friendship with an elementary school student through letters. Participants are expected to exchange a minimum of four letters. Contact **Arnold Foss** at Senior Care, 635-2860.

LZA Seniors continue through the winter with daily activities, cards, games, light lunches, at the Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave.

Everyone is welcome to join the new senior citizens **Club Hadar,** which meets every Monday, noon -4 p.m. at the Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, Room 103, at 501 Clark Ave., Thornhill. For more information, call **Viola Landman,** 886-2625.

The **Bloor Y's Good Age Club** will have a speaker from the Jewish Camp Council, 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30.

Canadian Israeli Club Aluma, for Israelis and Hebrew-speaking persons 55 and over, meets 7:30-9:30 every Wedneday evening at the Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. On Feb. 5, there will be a social gathering and bingo.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club, 470 Glencairn Ave., is taking reservations Monday and Wednesday mornings for *Shirley Valentine*, a play at the Bluma Appel Theatre, 1.30 p.m. May 6; *The Merry Widow*, a ballet at the O'Keefe Centre, matinee, May 15; and *HMS Pinafore*, a musical at Stratford, 2 p.m. May 19. For details about ongoing programs, call **Lena, 785-5773 or Ruth,** 224-5923. Remember the Golden Book to mark special occasions. Your donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. Call **Dorothy Bloomfield,** 787-1526.

The Wagman Centre Self-Help Widows Group, 55 years of age and over, meets every other Sunday to help each other deal with mourning and adjust to loss. The meetings provide a supportive environment where group members can share experiences and make new friends. The next meeting is Sunday, Feb. 2, in the library of the Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. Group co-ordinator is **Toby Warsh.** For more information, call **Paula David,**789-5131, ext. 2271.

The Joy of Theatre, Wagman Centre, presents *To Grandmother's House We Go*, at the Bluma Appel Theatre, 8 p.m. Thursday, March 26; *Shirley Valentine*, Bluma Appel Theatre, 8 p.m. Thursday, April 30; *The Merry Widow*, (ballet) O'Keefe Centre, 2 p.m. Friday, May 15. For tickets and details, contact **Litzie Binder,** 921-5786 or **Bernice Dworkin,** 635-5837, as soon as possible.

Earl Bales Seniors Club hosts a Saturday Night Dance 7-10 p.m. Feb. 1 in the clubhouse. Members free, non-members $1 per person. Dance to a live band, 7:30-10:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 2 in the community centre. Admission: members $3, non-members $4. All members, please make every effort to attend a general meeting regarding future happenings, 2-4 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6 in the community centre. Upcoming events include: a visit to a TV studio, Tuesday, March 17, departing the community centre at 9 a.m., lunch at Wendy's and a tour of a chocolate factory — cost (not including lunch) is $5 - for members only; and a bus trip to Buffalo (2 nights, 3 days) staying at the Holiday Inn, March 24-26. Cost $175 per person. For details on these and ongoing activities and courses, call 636-7856.

CENTRE FOR CREATIVE LIVING

The Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is located at 1003 Steeles Ave. W. The phone number is 225-2112.

Etrog, an Israeli cultural club for Hebrew-speaking older adults, meets evry Tuesday at 7 p.m. For information, call **Helen Issenberg,** 225-2112.

On Thursday, Feb. 6 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. in the synagogue, the La'Briyut Wellness Centre Health Lectures offer Wendo - Women's Self-Defence with **Deb Parent** - effective techniques for women of all ages. Wear comfortable, loose clothing.

A blood pressure screening clinic is scheduled for 10 a.m.- noon, Tuesday, Feb. 4.

MORRISON GOES TO UAHC

Stephen R. Morrison of Don Mills, a leader of Temple Sinai in Toronto, was inducted recently as a new member of the policy making board of trustees of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, central body of Reform Judaism in the United States and Canada. Pictured (from left) are Allan B. Goldman, retiring chairman of the board, Morrison, and Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, UAHC.

WEIZMANN WOMEN LECTURE

Ursula M. Franklin, FRCS, author of *The Real World of Technology*, was the guest speaker at the first lecture of the Weizmann Women for Science 1992 scientific lecture series. Seen here (from left) are Miriam Kerzner, national board member; Dr. Franklin; Carol Gordon, co-chairman; and Raylene Godel, co-chairman.

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Organizations and People

Leukemia treatment sought

By
CYNTHIA GASNER

TORONTO —
A 6½-year-old Russian immigrant in Israel has leukemia and desperately requires a bone marrow transplant.

Shortly after Katya Machiet came to Israel from St. Petersburg in May 1991 with her mother Natasha, a single parent, she was hospitalized at the Shaare Zedek Medical Centre where she received chemotherapy for leukemia.

Katya was helped by the treatments and went into remission. She was transferred to the Beilinson Hospital in Petach Tikvah for radiation. Her cancer became active again and she returned to Shaare Zedek for another set of chemotherapy treatments. Against all odds, Katya began producing some bone marrow, but not enough.

To survive, Katya urgently requires a bone marrow transplant. It was determined by the medical staff that Katya must have the transplant within two months.

To raise the money for a world search for a suitable donor, Carrie Grossman of Jerusalem, a former Torontonian who made aliyah with her husband Ben 11 years ago, decided to do something to help Katya. Carrie is a volunteer for Keren Klita, an organization established to assist new immigrants settle in Israel. She wrote to friends in Toronto to help her raise the money to save Katya's life.

On receiving requests from Carrie, Lyla Schwartz and Herb Green headed up a telephone and letter campaign. Carrie notes that funds have been raised in Israel but not enough to cover the costs of the extensive search for a donor.

Israel-based Keren Klita links immigrants with adopted Israeli families. The organization arranges medical and dental assistance and collects funds for clothing and household goods for the new immigrants.

As soon as funds are received in Canada for the Katya fund, they are covered in Israel, says Carrie. "This way, we don't have to wait until the funds arrive in Israel and we can continue our search for a donor."

Tax deductible donations can be made through the New Israel Fund of Canada, (earmarked for the Keren Klita-Katya Fund), 40 Dundas St. West, Suite 231, Box 29, Toronto, M5G 2C2 or call Marsha Slivka, (416) 340-0507.

CFHU reopens Calgary office

TORONTO —
The Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University (CFHU) recently reopened its Calgary office after a six-year hiatus and has hired a full-time director, thus becoming the only Israel-based organization in Canada with a full-time Calgary office.

J. Stephen Lipper of Montreal, national CFHU president, announced that Calgary lawyer and community leader Joseph A. Spier is the new president of the Calgary Friends of the Hebrew University and Rabbi Roy D. Tanenbaum will serve as the new director.

Lipper said the decision to reopen the Calgary office and revitalize the Calgary Friends indicates the national organization's confidence both in the strength of the Alberta Jewish community and in its strong commitment to Israel and the Hebrew University.

Spier, a senior partner with Spier, Prasow, Blitt & Boyer, is a native Calgarian. He has many community commitments aside from the Hebrew University, including the chairmanship of State of Israel Bonds (Calgary section) and a lifetime directorship of the Calgary Jewish Community Council, of which he is a past president.

Spier and his wife, Sondra, have two children.

Rabbi Tanenbaum, formerly rabbi of Calgary's Congregation Beth Tzedec, has worked as a writer, lecturer, counsellor, mediator, educator, facilitator and entrepreneur over the last 25 years.

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of The Canadian Jewish News. ***Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.*** *For rates or to place an ad, please call Alan at 422-2528.*

L.Goodman, C.Usher, D.Kerbel present "La Party", our biggest one yet!!! With the incredible sounds of **"Reflections"**. Thursday, February 6th, 1992, 8:00pm. **Merlins Nightclub** (Camelot Restaurant). 759 Mount Pleasant Road (just South of Eglinton). $12.00 cover. Dinner reservations available 486-8147. Grand prize: Trip for 2 to Atlantic City courtesy of Travel 24 Inc. and Atlantic City Getaways. **A donation to The Children's Wish Foundation will be made.** 8389

Please join **Adath Israel Singles (Ages 30-50)** for its next session of its **Ongoing Torah Study Class** on Tuesday, February 4th, 1992 at 8:00pm at the Synagogue, 37 Southbourne Avenue, Downsview. Question the purpose of life. Learn about the past so we can live in the present. For further information, contact Rabbi Sheldon Korn at 635-5340. 8474

Uptown Singles, 35-55, food, fun, marvelous people and great ambience. $15.00. February 1, February 2. 8:00pm. 882-5700. 8477

Adath Israel Singles (Ages 30-50) presents **Sunday Brunch** on February 2, 1992 at 11:30am. Theme: **Economic Forum** with guest speakers Kay Saunders, Director, Placement Centre at Jewish Vocational Services on "Career Survival in a Dead Economy" and Danny Rosenzweig, Partner, Krofchick, Levine, and Rosenzweig, Chartered Accountants, on "Financial Planning Strategies for the Single Person". Prepaid reservations by Tuesday, January 28 are $12.00 per person. (Cheques payable to Adath Israel Congregation, 37 Southbourne Avenue, Downsview, M3H 1A4.) 8405

***Games Jewish Singles Play**
Saturday, February 1st, 7:30pm. Beth Torah, 47 Glenbrook (South of Lawrence, East off Dufferin). *Chutzpah, Trivial Pursuit, Bridge, Scrabble, Balderdash, Yuk-Yuk, Pictionary etc. Early Bird Bingo, 7:30-8:00pm. Prizes. Refreshments. Admission $5.00. Information, Mollie 733-3634. 8319

Metro Toronto Singles presents "The Prince of Tides" party at **Pete and Marty's**, 160 Eglinton Avenue East (east of Yonge Street). Sunday, February 2nd. 8:00pm. Bottle of wine to the best Barbara Streisand and Nick Nolte look-alikes. Cover $10.00 For information **222-7111**. 8403

Come join Adath Israel Singles (ages 27-49) on an exciting two week vacation **tour of Israel** May 4-18, 1992. It accents a thrilling, moving view of Israel with a bevy of unique happenings as well as time to enjoy your surroundings. Join in the celebration of Israel's 44th Independence Day. This tour was designed specifically for singles. This is a chance to see Israel's wonders, to dig into its history, to feel its joys and growing pains- and to return home rejuvenated, refreshed and with new friends. We promise you an experience to remember. For further details contact Rabbi Korn at 635-5340 or Orli at Aufgang Travel 789-7117. 8497

Lishar/Felix Productions presents a party at Club Bluenote, 128 Pears Avenue. **Featuring Bobby Dupont with The Royals** playing a tribute to The Righteous Brothers. Friday, January 31st. 7:00pm. Cover $10.00. For more information call 783-0973. 8418

Jewish Community Centre of Toronto, Bloor "Y" Branch Adult Department, 750 Spadina Avenue. It's fun, it's entertaining, it's a two day **"Latin American Workshop"**. Learn the Salsa, Meringue, Argentinian Tango and more. Sunday, February 9 and 16. From 2-4pm. Cost $40.00. Registration and payment by Wednesday, February 5th. For more information call Luni at 924-6211. 8473

A Touch of Class (35-55) is proud to present a **Valentine's Dance Party** with number 1 Israeli singer and entertainer **Coby Chai** and his band. Sunday, February 9th. 8:30pm. Light supper included. Cost $22.00. To reserve call Sonia 771-8448. 8488

Valentine's Celebration Party
All Ladies Free!!!!
Wiseblatt, Goldstein, Cohen and Rubenstein invite all singles to an unbelievable sweetheart of a party at the fabulous Key West Sports Cafe, 5150 Yonge Street (3 lights north of Sheppard at the North York City Centre, concourse level). Thursday, February 13th. 8:00pm. Door cover $10.00, but all ladies free, free, free!!! The kitchen will be open for 20 cent wings all night. For details or directions, call Key West Hotline 250-8977. Leave this night open to meet your sweetheart!!!
P.S. Underground parking off Parkhome will be validated. 8434

Metro Toronto Singles and Tower Travel presents our 2nd annual **Singles Rendezvous in Israel**, March 25-April 8. Meet singles from around the world. For information **222-7111**. 8404

Toronto's Orthodox Singles Inc. presents **Two Exciting Shabbatonim**. February 14-17 in Asbury Park, New Jersey, or March 20-22 in Toronto (Clanton Park Congregation). For more information call Sharon Ganz 785-0761, Ruth Balofsky 764-5833. 8421

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Feb. 24, March 2, 9 at Adath Israel Congregation

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Organizations and People

Linda Cupido (left), secretary of the Ronald McDonald House board, receives a cheque for a new Ronald McDonald House in December with co-presidents Hynda Halpern and Penny Greenberg (right).

Hamilton NCJW helps launch new Ronald McDonald House

By
MOURA WOLPERT

HAMILTON —
Proceeds from a gala Monte Carlo Night held last November will go towards the building of a Ronald McDonald House here.

A commitment by Hamilton's National Council of Jewish Women to raise funds and provide volunteer services helped convince Ronald McDonald's Children's Charities to give permission to build the residence.

And as a result of this small but energetic group's fund raising skills, they were able to hand over the entire $10,000 at once instead of over the originally pledged two-year period.

The cheque was presented to Kids Care Oncology, Central-West Ontario board member Linda Cupido, at a special Chanukah pot luck supper at the home of Gloria Mostyn.

Ronald McDonald houses are residences for out-of-town families of hospitalized children and the Hamilton residence will be built within a short walk from the children's hospital at the McMaster University Medical Centre. Construction is expected to begin in the spring.

NCJW's mandate is to furnish the 18-bedroom home and they have undertaken the project in conjunction with the Junior League of Hamilton.

With fewer than 60 members, the group thought it would take them two years to raise the money but as it turned out, says co-president Hynda Halpern, "we made it all at the Monte Carlo Night."

The Monte Carlo night proved to be "a spectacular event," according to past president, Evelyn Silver, who lauded convenor Flora Rams and her committee for the "outstanding job" they had done.

Active, vibrant group

Once one of Hamilton's major Jewish women's organizations with well over 200 members, NCJW folded in the 1970s but was revived in 1980 by Sandy Silver. It has since evolved into an active and vibrant group that has won national recognition for its fund raising.

Among its ongoing projects are the ship-a-box program, which provides for funds for prayer books, dictionaries, puzzles, children's books and other Jewish material for Jews in the Soviet Union, and the Israel Family Counselling Service (IFCA).

Monthly meetings focus on various issues. Women's health issues "are very important," and the next meeting, on Feb. 5, says co-president, Penny Greenberg, will deal with that topic.

In March, Prof. Adele Reinhartz of the McMaster University department of religion, Gloria Silverman, principal of Beth Jacob School, and Faigie Itkin, a teacher with the Hamilton Hebrew Academy, will discuss the role of women in Judaism, and in April, a nutritionist will unravel the mysteries of food labelling.

In addition to Halpren and Greenberg, the executive includes Rams and Bonnie Rotenberg, vice-presidents; Denise Wolpert, secretary; Enid Aaron, corresponding secretary, and Laura Ludwin, treasurer.

Two of Hamilton Section's past presidents serving on the national board of NCJW are Michele Finkelstein, vice-president, community service and research, and Evelyn Silver, vice-president, women's issues.

Silver and long-time NCJW member Rae Rosenberg, a member of the International Council of Jewish Women, have been appointed to the board of directors of the Hamilton Ronald McDonald House.

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Saturday, February 29th, 1992 — 9:00 a.m.
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Thursday, March 5th, 1992 — 8:00 p.m.
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Visiting Professor of Philosophy, Jewish Theological Seminary of America

Thursday, March 26th, 1992 — 8:00 p.m.
JUDAISM'S ATTITUDES TOWARDS SUBSTANCE ABUSE
Rabbi Robert Marcus
Rabbi, Farmingdale Jewish Center, Farmingdale, New York

Thursday, April 9th, 1992 — 8:00 p.m.
TO TREAT OR NOT TO TREAT
HEALTH CARE ETHICS AND THE DOLLAR DILEMMA
Dr. Martin Barkin, M.D., F.R.C.P. (C)
National Practice Leader for Health Care and Social Services, Peat,Marwick, Stevenson and Kellogg
Professor — Department of Health Administration, University of Toronto

Dr. Bernard Dickens, Ph.D., LL.D.
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Organizations and People

MiniCAJE conference set

TORONTO —

The endowment fund of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto will co-sponsor a major event geared for professionals and lay people involved in Jewish education.

The upcoming regional MiniCAJE (Mini-Conference for Alternatives in Jewish Education) conference in February has 1,000 registered applicants from formal and informal educational settings. This is the first time Toronto has ever hosted the conference.

"We are always pleased to have the opportunity to support innovative, educational endeavors, which may have a marked impact on our teachers and community," said Randy Spiegel, endowment fund associate.

MiniCAJE conferences are the regional counterparts to the annual CAJE (Conference for Alternatives in Jewish Education) event, sponsored by the U.S.-based Coalition for Alternatives in Jewish Education.

It is the largest convention for Jewish educators and lay people interested in Jewish education in Canada and the United States.

Joan Schoenfeld, conference chairman, has organized the MiniCAJE steering committee, which is composed of principals and other Jewish education professionals.

"It's very much a grass roots effort," she says. "We have about 175 sessions scheduled over the two-day period."

The workshops will include the areas of day schools, Jewish studies, day school secular studies, supplementary school Jewish studies, preschool, informal education, Torah L'shma and others.

Along with the federation's endowment fund, the event received support from the Board of Jewish Education, the Centre for Jewish Studies at York University, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, the Jewish Community Centre of Toronto, and the federal Ministry of Multiculturalism.

MiniCAJE will be held Sunday, Feb. 16, and Monday, Feb. 17, at Glendon College, York University.

For more information and registration forms, contact MiniCAJE administrator, Noreen Nisker, at the Board of Jewish Education at 633-7770.

New date for Felder shloshim

TORONTO —

The date for a shloshim service planned for Rabbi Gedalia Felder has been changed from Jan. 28 to Sunday, Feb. 2 at 7:30 p.m. It will be held at Shomrai Shaboth Congregation, 585 Glengrove Ave. W.

Rabbi Felder was spiritual leader of the synagogue.

In his memory, a siyum concluding the study of a portion of Talmud will be conducted by one of the rabbi's three sons.

Rabbi Henry Hoschander, president of the Vaad Harabonim of Ontario, will speak on behalf of that organization.

Provincial spending curbs squeeze Jewish social services

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —

Last week's provincial spending curbs announced by Premier Bob Rae will likely translate into a new squeeze in Metro's Jewish social services.

In a televised address, Rae said the recession has forced his government to reduce provincial transfer payments to schools, school boards, municipalities and hospitals to a record low increase of one percent in 1992, and two percent in each of the following two years.

Rae also called on the public sector to take its own austerity measures and exercise restraint.

The harsh cutbacks had to be taken to keep Ontario's record deficit from ballooning to $14 billion, Rae said.

At Jewish Family & Child Service, there's little doubt that smaller increases from Queen's Park will mean cuts in services, said executive director Gordon Wolfe.

The agency receives about $4 million a year from the province, Wolfe noted.

A one percent increase for 1992 will probably mean having to freeze staff salaries and hiring. Staff attrition will help, Wolfe said, adding that he does not foresee any layoffs.

Services required by law, such as child welfare work and foster care, will not be affected, he promised.

Bob Rae

But services such as counselling and outreach very likely will be cut back, he added.

"That will probably result in waiting lists. We'll just have to look at delivering services in a more efficient way and in shifting responsibilities," Wolfe said.

As well, areas like professional development and staff conferences look as though they will be chopped, he said.

"It's going to be tough."

The same tone was sounded by Michael Scheinert, executive director of Senior Care, which provides services to the Jewish elderly.

"We're going to be asked to provide more for less," Scheinert said. "It's a mess."

The agency foresees "serious" cutbacks in provincially-subsidized areas, he said. That includes the agency's popular homemaker service, which provides meal preparation, personal care, shopping, housekeeping and companionship.

"The implications for us could be serious," Scheinert said. "It will be a new way of doing business."

The Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care has no plans to cut beds, staff or services, but the general prognosis is bleak, said president Stephen Herbert.

Herbert told *The CJN* that the centre's officials "are spending a lot of time on strategy," but there are no immediate plans for cutbacks.

Herbert said Baycrest had anticipated the provincial increase to be two percent, not one.

"Every year, you have to get more creative. We are going through every area to see what can be eliminated or cut back.

"But we have no plans to cut beds and services and we won't put an undue burden on staff."

In the fiscal year 1990-1991, Baycrest's budget deficit was $8.2 million.

Baycrest receives 76 percent of its revenues from the province, Herbert said.

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Refreshments will be served • Students, please bring your parents

Organizations and People

Nationalism in CIS seen as danger to Jews

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

Jews should not gamble on what their lives will be like in countries of the former Soviet Union and instead should make their way to Israel while they can.

This was the unvarnished advice given bluntly recently by Professor Aurel Braun of the University of Toronto, a Soviet and East European specialist.

The nationalistic passions already unleashed in the Commonwealth of Independent States, coupled with economic and political chaos, pose a growing danger for Jews, he said.

"What are the chances of building viable Jewish communities in these countries?" he asked. "It's a gamble. The energies could be used in a better way somewhere else. There is an option--Israel. It is better to build a future for themselves in Israel. It won't be easy, but the odds are a lot better."

Braun, who is professor of international relations and political science, spoke to a meeting at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue sponsored by its adult education commmittee and the Institute for International Affairs of B'nai Brith Canada.

In a well-documented and incisive analysis of the position of Jews in the maelstrom of political developments, Braun said he is forced to come up with a negative conclusion about their future in those countries.

He gave a full review of both the positive and negative aspects of nationalist expression and the ways in which the negative ones can be turned against Jews.

Braun surprised many in the audience when he said the latest estimates are that instead of 1.8 to two million Jews in the former Soviet Union there are from three to five million because many Jews have kept their racial origin hidden.

In the question period, he was asked if western countries like Canada should be asked to admit more Jews from the former Soviet Union to ease the burden on Israel. "Israel has made plans to take them all in," he replied. "I hope it won't be necessary to ask the western countries."

Anti-Semitism practised under intellectual, economic and religious guises are more insidious and more dangerous to Jews than the physical violence reported sporadically, he said.

In Hungary anti-Semites describe themselves as "deep Hungarians" and use other code words such as "Hungarian culture" as opposed to "cosmopolitan culture." In Russia, anti-Semites say Jews write in Russian but they are not Russian.

Braun said he did not put a lot of stock in the hope that Eastern European countries will treat Jews well because they hope to attract capital and investment from the West. "If they are selling tolerance, rather than believing in it, it won't work. Other money will become available to them, for example from Saudi Arabia, and with it Saudi ideology, which is a dangerous development."

Musical ambassador

[Cont'd. from page 2]

Toronto and his violist cancelled. I was asked to fill in and he was overwhelmed by my playing. He came to visit my home and fell in love with my paintings. It was Heinz who brought me to Europe as a recitalist, and through him, I made the entree into elite musical circles. He was my first mentor."

Although she has shifted her base to London, the pull to Canada remains very strong. "This is where I started my solo career; a significant part of my recitals and recordings are done here. I try to include the work of one Canadian composer in every recital I do. I like to think I'm an ambassador for Canadian music."

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Organizations and People

Breast screening centre launches new program

By
FRANCES KRAFT

TORONTO —

When a woman discovers a breast lump the size of a pea, chances are she has had it for two to eight years, says Dr. Judith Weinroth, medical co-ordinator, Ontario Breast Screening Program - Toronto Centre. State of the art mammography, on the other hand, can pick up breast cancer when it is still only the size of the head of a pin. That is a potent reason to visit the centre, which is open to women over 50, the group which has been shown to reap the greatest benefits from mammography.

The 3300-square-foot centre, located at 110 Bloor St. W., officially opened earlier this month to kick off a six-week public awareness program.

Each year in Ontario 5,000 women are diagnosed with breast cancer and 1,700 die of the disease. "As a woman, I want to help to put an end to the needless deaths of other women," said Ontario Health Minister Frances Lankin. "As minister of health, I want to ensure that women receive the most sensitive and respectful care possible."

Sensitivity to women's needs is evident in the wrap-around rose-colored hospital gowns which have three armholes to prevent gaping, in the carefully chosen staff, and in the fact that women can schedule their own appointments without a medical referral.

The Bloor Street centre is the third to open in the Toronto area, the 10th in the province. Other centres are located in Hamilton, Kingston, London, Ottawa, Sudbury, Thunder Bay and Windsor. All are funded by the Ministry of Health, and there is no cost for women who want to be screened.

Over 15,000 women have been screened province-wide since the program began over a year ago, said Dr. Charles Hollenberg, president and CEO of the Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation, which operates the program. Almost 80 of those women were found to have early-stage breast cancer, enabling them to be treated before the cancer could progress to become life-threatening.

Women who wish to be screened should allow about 45 minutes for their appointment. In addition to a mammogram, which is a low-dose X-ray of the breast, a nurse performs a breast examination and teaches the woman how to examine her own breasts.

Some women are apprehensive about mammography. Evelyn Eppes, one of the first women to have used the clinic, found her mammogram uncomfortable "momentarily," but added that there is plenty of reassurance from the staff. Mammography is very low-risk, according to Dr. Pamela Chart, medical co-ordinator, Ontario Breast Screening Program - Toronto Bayview. "The technology has improved. The [X-ray] dose is 10 times less now than it was 10 years ago," said Chart. It is recommended that women be screened every two years after age 50.

Although the screening centres are targeted at women over 50, there is a place for mammography in the younger population when screening women at high risk, said Weinroth. Any woman with a strong family history of breast cancer should consult her personal physician, says Weinroth, as should any woman with unusual breast symptoms.

The province-wide toll-free number to make an appointment at any of the Ontario Breast Screening centres is 1-800-668-9304.

Memorial service for Jacober

TORONTO —

A memorial service for Dr. Levi Jacober, former principal of Associated Hebrew Schools, will be held on Sunday, Feb. 16, at 10 a.m. in the chapel of the school's Neptune branch, 3630 Bathurst St.

Jacober began teaching at the Associated evening school on Brunswick Avenue, where he became the principal. He was instrumental in founding the day school in 1942, when he became its principal, a post he held until his retirement almost 30 years later.

At his retirement in 1970, the Parents' Association of Associated Hebrew Schools honored him by naming the school's library after him.

After he retired, he remained an active consultant, attending meetings of the education committee, interviewing potential religious studies teachers and helping wherever he was needed.

The public is invited to attend.

Jewish-Palestinian solidarity urged

By
RANDI DRUZIN

TORONTO —

Israel persecutes Palestinians the way other states have persecuted Jews, a Jewish theologian said here last week.

Marc Ellis, who directs the Justice and Peace program at the Catholic School of Theology in Maryknoll, N.Y., said Jews must admit that what they've done is wrong and seek solidarity with Palestinians.

In a recent lecture at the University of Toronto, sponsored in part by the Jewish Women's Committee to End the Occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, Ellis said Jews "have become everything they've loathed about their oppressors. In the process of conquering and displacing the Palestinian people, Jews have done to others what has been done to them."

Ellis attributes this development to widespread acceptance in the Jewish community of "Holocaust Theology" — a world view that delineates Jews as victims and Israel as "an embattled and isolated state" which, because of its perilous existence, is justified in instituting "any form of empowerment."

Advocates of Holocaust theology, said Ellis, use the Holocaust to justify "the occupation, beating, deportation and humiliation of the Palestinian people.

"Holocaust theology tells us who we were," he said, "but it doesn't tell us who we have become."

Ellis said Jews must stop regarding themselves as victims and must "right the wrongs that have been done [to the Palestinians]," or risk ending a "Jewish heritage worth bequeathing to future generations."

Salvation, he said, "can only come about by seeking solidarity with the Palestinian people." He said Israel should relinquish the territories and negotiate a two-state settlement with the Palestinians. "Jews can live and flourish in the Middle East alongside Palestinians," he said.

Also during the lecture, Ellis said Christians and Jews should "break their longstanding gentleman's agreement" not to talk about how each group views the Palestinian people.

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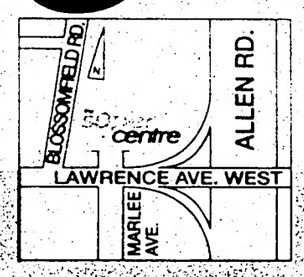

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LOW PRICE LEADER

Organizations and People

Interfaith leader Land receives Anglican Award of Merit

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —
The Anglican Award of Merit, a national award, was presented to Edith Land recently by Archbishop Michael G. Peers, primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, for her work in interfaith relations.

The ceremony was held at St. Leonard's Anglican Church on Wanless Avenue, as part of the Feast of the Epiphany service.

A throng of Land's colleagues and friends, representing many religious denominations, attended the service, with special words of commendation being expressed by Talat Muinuddin, president, Canadian Council of Muslim Women, Rabbi Erwin Schild, emeritus, Adath Israel Congregation and Rev. Canon Fred Cross, rector of St. Leonard's.

Though it was established in 1967, Archbishop Peers said the national award has been presented only since 1987 because of controversy over singling out an individual worthy of the honor.

Land directed a group called Christian-Jewish Dialogue in Toronto for many years and also authored a guide for study of the Holocaust. She has visited Israel many times and is known across Canada for her work with the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews.

"It is with great joy and feeling of deep pride that I welcome the award to my good friend Edith Land," said Rabbi Schild. "For many years she has been my partner, my mentor and my conscience.

"I appreciate the significance of the award being bestowed. We know what she stands for. It is an endorsememt of her work in interfaith relations, in enduring dialogue. My wish is that it sends a message to all Canadians of the significance of pluralism in governing the relationships between Canadians."

Describing Land as "our dear sister," Muinuddin said she was a witness in the "service of God," and had also found time to raise a loving family.

Land's husband, Brian, executive director of the Ontario legislative library, their son John, of Kitchener, and his wife Barbara, and their daughter, Mary, were present for the ceremony.

Land's brother, Rev. Charles W. Eddis, of Montreal, read one of the Scripture lessons, as did Sister Mary Jo Leddy, of the Sisters of Sion.

PR SILVER AWARD

Communications associate Ina Glick (left) of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto (formerly the Toronto Jewish Congress), accepted the 1991 Public Relations Silver Award for the best campaign brochures from Detroit's Dulcie Rosenfeld, chairman of the CJF public relations committee, during the 60th Council of Jewish Federations General Assembly in Baltimore. Toronto's federation has won awards for excellence in public relations every year for nearly a decade. [Robert A. Cumins photo]

JCC plans to be studied

By
MOURA WOLPERT

HAMILTON —
A detailed technical study of land-use now underway will be crucial to the approval by local authorities and residents of the development of the Hamilton Wentworth & Area JCC's proposed master plan.

Plans for the development of the 36-acre property in Ancaster, in an area bordered by Hamilton and Dundas, will be the JCC's main focus during the next 12 months, along with collection of pledges made on the initial $3.2 million capital funds campaign, as well as "the reconvening of the campaign" in order to raise an additional $700,000-$800,000, reported campaign chairman and JCC secretary, Larry Szpirglas, at the recent JCC annual meeting.

A recent application for the severance of a five-acre parcel of land on the western outskirts of the JCC's original 41 acres was successful and proceeds from the sale of that land will be used to pay off the mortgage "or whatever remains of the construction loan," Szpirglas said.

Plans put on hold during land severance discussions can now be reactivated and by midsummer, the JCC should know where it stands regarding development of its master plan, the meeting was told by Ken Dakin of May, Pirie & Associates Ltd., the Burlington land-use consultants who are conducting the study and who have been associated with the JCC since its search for a new property began some 12 years ago.

The proposals must be approved by the Niagara Escarpment Commission, the town of Ancaster and the Hamilton-Wentworth region. Without the study, suggested Dakin, "the probability of success is very, very small."

The plan calls for the development of walking trails, baseball diamonds and soccer fields as well as for day care services such as a camp and nursery school.

The land has been designated as "pastoral in character" and initial response by residents to its proposed use was "a very strong backlash," said Dakin.

Residents were able to voice their concerns at an open house held by the JCC last year and as a result, noted Dakin, "four issues came to the fore."

The most important, he said; "was the level of use: how many people, how many activities, what days of the week?" An issue, he cautioned, "that should be addressed very carefully."

Second is traffic which is, "essentially a numbers game;" third, "the government-generated issue of archeology," whereby land developers must consider such matters as aboriginal use of the land; and fourth, the presence on the property of what is probably one of the oldest stone houses in Ancaster and which may be of architectural or heritable significance.

Sandy Silver, who has agreed to serve another year as president, also announced the establishment of a refurbishing committee under the chairmanship of former president, Mel Gunn, and that a rededication of the building will be held next September.

In a brief history of the Hamilton JCC, which was started by "a group of people about 102 years ago," past president Michael Kemeny explained that the annual meeting was actually being held by Hamilton Jewish Communal Projects, a charitable corporation formed in 1949 for the purpose of acquiring the property at 57 Delaware for use as a Jewish Community Centre.

Following the sale of that building, the organization bought the present property in 1987, and therefore, explained Kemeny, "the HJCP is the organization that owns the property and the JCC is the organization that runs the building."

In addition to Silver and Szpirglas, the executive includes David Loewith and Sharan Marcovitz-Hart, vice-presidents, Terry Bennett, treasurer and Martin Levy, Dr. Janet Weisz-Asa and Carolyn Molot-Mandel. Executive director is Neil Silvert.

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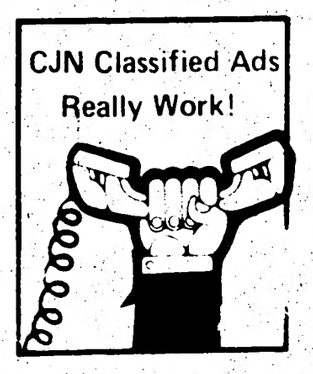

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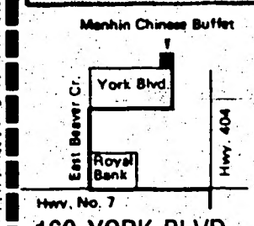

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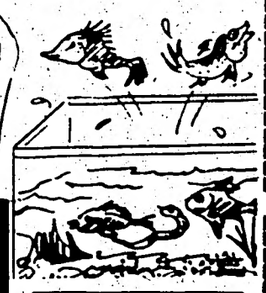

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Organizations and People

Hartman enjoying ice time as member of Winnipeg Jets

By
PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

Ever since they were traded to the Winnipeg Jets, neither Phil Housley, Troy Murray nor Ed Olczyk have had anything negative to say about the prairie city that is often the butt of jokes from people in larger centres.

Now you can add winger Mike Hartman to that list. A former Buffalo Sabre who joined the Jets in a multi-player deal early in the season, Hartman is quite happy playing in pro hockey's loneliest, and coldest, outpost.

For the 24-year-old Hartman, a native of the Oak Park area of Detroit, moving to Winnipeg has meant getting an opportunity to play regularly.

Last season in Buffalo he found himself riding the pines too often, so when he, Darrin Shannon and Dean Kennedy were traded for Dave McLlwain, Gord Donnelly and future considerations, Hartman was not disappointed.

"It feels good to go out and play every night," he said. "We have a good hockey club. I'm really happy."

Assigned to Winnipeg's checking line with centre Mike "I'll stick my head in a buzzsaw" Eagles and left winger Phil Sykes, Hartman has continued the tough, abrasive style that got him in the league.

Like the only other Jewish forward in the league, Calgary's Ronnie Stern, Hartman plays an aggressive "in your face" style that earns him more notice in the penalty statistics (176 minutes in 44 games) than in the point totals (two goals, one assist). (Montreal defenceman Mathieu Schneider is the other Jewish player in the league.)

Perhaps it's no coincidence that with the addition of Hartman and other character players willing to battle for the puck, last year's patsy Jets have turned over a new leaf and are defying pre-season prognosticators by holding down second place in the Smythe Division.

Mike Hartman

For Hartman, taking on a tough guy role was something he developed early in his career. As a 16-year-old playing in Toronto for the North York Rangers, Hartman was told by his coach even at that age that his only route to the NHL was as a tough and aggressive forward.

"I slowly adjusted into the role," he said.

From the Rangers, Hartman moved for one year to the Belleville Bulls of the Ontario Hockey League, and from there to North Bay where he toiled for a year-and-a-half.

When Buffalo selected him in the 7th round of the 1986 draft, "I was pretty happy about it," Hartman recalls.

After spending half a season with the Sabres as a 19-year-old rookie, he was sent to the U.S. national team. He also got to play for the United States at the World Junior Championships on a team that featured current New York Ranger star Brian Leetch. The team finished fifth.

Hartman started the 1987-88 season with Buffalo's American Hockey League team in Rochester but after a few months he was called up to the big league and has been there ever since.

His time in Buffalo was a happy one, made all the better by meeting his fiance, Lauren. "That's the best thing about Buffalo," he recalls. They plan to be married in Buffalo this June in a Jewish ceremony.

Hartman says that moving from the Adams Division to the Smythe has meant somewhat fewer tight-checking games, but he learned a long time ago never to underestimate any of the players in the league.

Hartman attributes the Jets' first half success to the "smart checking game" that coach John Paddock has instilled and to the team's character.

The Jets have "a lot of camaraderie and unity," Hartman said. "They look out for one another. That's one thing I've noticed."

As for his long term plans, Hartman says "I want to play as long as I can until they tell me I'm not good enough anymore." In the meantime, he's working on a business degree from a junior college in Connecticut, combining correspondence courses in the winter with classes in the summer.

Fischer utilized art therapy

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

Dr. Martin Fischer, a psychiatrist known for using art therapy in his work, died Jan. 10 at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre after a massive heart attack. He was 78.

Born in Poland, he was raised in Vienna, Austria. He and other students were about to write their medical exams when the Nazis arrestd them in the late 1930s.

He was jailed for some weeks, but, according to his daughter, Erica, "by an incredible bit of luck," was helped by a philanthropic group that took him to Great Britain.

Because he was fluent in German, Dr. Fischer was assigned by British intelligence to decode messsages from U-boats prowling the English channel, his daughter said.

Dr. Fischer came to Canada in 1940 as a refugee and spent 18 months in a camp in Quebec before being sponsored by the administrator of Mount Sinai hospital to attend the University of Toronto.

He saw art therapy as a method of bypassing the ususal verbalizing process which he felt was inhibiting to the patient. He opened the Toronto Art Therapy Institute in 1968.

The funeral service was held at Beth Tzedec Synagogue.

Surviving are his wife, Beatrice, daughters Erica, Laura and Caroline, sons Philip and Steven, and several grandchildren.

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Frances Mandell, Toronto JNF president, bought the first JNF tree at the community celebration of Tu B'Shevat at the north branch of the Y.

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Corjo Designs offers garments at low prices

By
RANDI DRUZIN

"The economy stinks!" says Helen Mindel, but she adds enthusiastically, "business was wonderful in December!"

Mindel has cause to be happy. Women of all ages (and sizes) have been visiting her warehouse on Steelcase Road in Markham to scoop up the leisure wear that Mindel designs and manufactures or imports from the United States and sells at wholesale prices for Corjo Designs.

"Everyone's looking for a bargain," she says. "And when women come to me, they're hooked for life."

Mindel sells comfortable leisure wear for women sizes 6 to 16, including 100 percent cotton french terry cowl neck tops with matching leggings. The cowl of the top and the leggings are patterned, she says, while the body of the top is a solid color. Mindel also carries large dotted shirts in spring colors such as lime, orange and fuchsia, lingerie for normal and larger-sized women and a wide variety of second-hand clothes.

Mindel says the clothes for larger-size women are exceptionally popular. "Many middle-aged women are putting on weight," explains Mindel, "but many of them still have beautiful legs. The large shirts cover their upper bodies, but allow them to show off their legs."

Mindel also carries costume jewelry at her warehouse, including pearl earrings and necklaces, metal earrings and neck sets and hairgoods, headbands, hair clips and scrunchies. Especially popular, says Mindel, are the plastic-covered, crystal Mickey and Minnie Mouse pins that she imports from Europe. "There are lots of Minnie and Mickey Mouse freaks out there," she says.

Mindel used to sell costume jewelry to retailers but stopped a year ago because sales were "just OK," and because "many stores were closing and going under" in the recession.

Mindel says she's so happy with business these days she won't go back to selling to retailers when the economy improves.

"Are you kidding?" she asks incredulously. "This is wonderful!"

Sketch by Sunny Choi

Ms Emma's offers custom-made designs

By
CAROLYN BLACKMAN

If one of your fantasies is to walk into a woman's clothing store and be able to fit every item on the racks, than Ms Emma Designs is just the store for you.

At Ms Emma's, everything is created in one size and then custom-fitted at no extra charge.

Ettie Starr, owner of the Ms Emma store at 4967 Yonge St. says that the simple lines and standard length of all Ms Emma's designs make it an easy task to alter the clothes to fit most figure types.

"This is such a boon for those hard-to-fit figures. A customer can come into my store knowing that they will walk out with the outfit of their choice."

Starr says that Ms Emma Designs was started in 1972 as an altenative to mass-produced synthetic clothes.

"All our designs are originals and are handcreated in our own workshop using only natural fibres such as cotton silk and rayon."

She adds that with complementary accessories such as belts, T-shirts, scarves, sweaters and earrings always available, "it really is a one-stop kind of store. A customer knows we'll have her fit and she can match accessories to her outfit."

Starr says that the majority of her customers admit to wanting to be taller and thinner and "we put a lot of emphasis on helping them achieve the look they want. One way to make a woman's tummy look flatter is to incorporate a flat front panel in our dresses and skirts. Flat box pleats also minimize the stomach — the wider the pleats, the more flattering the garment."

She notes that the popular split skirt has the flat pleats in the back "in order to minimize the behind. As well, when worn fairly long, the split skirt has a draping effect that is also very flattering. One thing about customer-fit clothes is that they flatter every figure-type."

She says that the advantage her customers have over those who go to a dressmaker to have their clothes made-to-order "is that my customers see what they are getting ahead of time. The average woman cannot properly visualize the way an outfit will turn out merely be looking at a sketch. Too often a woman is unpleasantly surprised once an outfit is finished. Here, they see the outfit on the rack and after it is altered to fit, it can only look better. Nothing is a surprise."

Starr says that another great advantage to shopping at Ms Emma's is that most clothing can be mixed and matched. "One of our most popular items is the tapestry waist-length vest, with a V-neck, button down front and slightly puffy shoulders. A customer can wear this vest to a wedding by matching it with a camisole and silk skirt. On the other hand, when worn with a wool skirt and turtleneck, it becomes a perfect business outfit — two complete outfits from just one vest."

Asked what is popular in the fashion world for this season, Starr just laughs and says, "I really have no idea. I don't get out of the store much and we carry nothing that is trendy."

She says that whereas the average retail store carries clothing in "trendy styles and colors, we concentrate on classic clothes in styles and colors that will last forever. We concentreate on such colors as purple, fucshia, peacock and green — colors that make a woman feel good. We don't want a woman stuck with an article of clothing she bought merely because it was in style. We also do not want her to see herself around every corner."

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Arts

Catskills on Broadway brings Borscht Belt to life

Theatre
By GERRY MORRIS

NEW YORK —

In its heyday, the Catskills was the professional birthplace of New York comics, and therefore became a lively bastion of Jewish humor. *Catskills On Broadway* is exactly that, a bristling evening celebration of Borscht Belt humor offered by four seasoned performers — Freddie Roman, Marilyn Michaels, Mal Z. Lawrence and Dick Capri — each of whom delivers a 30 minute monologue.

These stand-up comics have been doing their tried and proven shtick for many a Catskill moon in places like Grossingers and The Concord, and the street-smart producers, undoubtedly inspired by the tumultuous 1989-90 success of Jackie Mason's two one-man shows, decided to increase the numbers and bring the Borscht Circuit nightclub venue back to Broadway.

This is not what you would call legitimate theatre. In fact, one resents its dislocation, especially if one dares to reminisce about the distinguished Broadway product of yesteryear. But this show is so shrewdly and expertly presented that the early skepticism and nostalgic lament are swept away in thunderous laughter and applause.

The show opens with a 10-minute projected photo montage of the Catskills, covering the golden era of the 1950s and 1960s, which sets the mood for Freddie Roman's warm and homey opening, dealing with retirees in Florida (a state which he dubbed "God's waiting room"). "Florida, that's where it's perpetually sunny until the grandchildren come to visit, then it rains every day."

Impressionist Marilyn Michaels brings balance to the show with some stunning imitations, ranging in style from Liza Minnelli to Pearl Bailey.

But the star of the show is polished Mal Z. Lawrence. From our corner, this is the best hipster-comedian seen anywhere in the last 30 years. A slender man in an elegantly tailored suit, a deep tan, balding with a pony tail, he is one of the most wicked wits this side of Don Rickles (only with more taste and aplomb).

Catskills On Broadway can be viewed as an historical study of a type of humor that excelled in the mountains and on the seashore long ago and far away. There are many (particularly in the over-50 Jewish crowd) who believe it was sharper, more original, and infinitely more intelligent than all the scatological, tasteless stuff that now masquerades as comedy.

Appearing at The Lunt-Fontanne Theatre, 205 West 46th Street.

For tickets call Ticketmaster at (212) 398-8383.

Starring in Catskills on Broadway are (clockwise from centre) Marilyn Michaels, Freddie Roman, Mal Z. Lawrence and Dick Capri.

TVO looks at weapons of Gulf War

Television
By SHELDON KIRSHNER

The Gulf War was a high-tech conflict, a test range for such weaponry of destruction as the Tomahawk cruise missile, the Stealth fighter-bomber and the Hellfire missile.

The ease with which Iraq was crushed by the United States and its allies is evidence enough that these and other sophisticated weapons of war worked.

A documentary on TVOntario on Feb. 3 at 8 p.m., *After Desert Storm*, illustrates the degree to which Saddam Hussein was bamboozled and defeated by the coalition's military might.

After Desert Storm, which is part of TVOntario's Vista series, proves yet again that Iraq never really stood a chance against the coalition.

Iraq was doomed from the moment the first radar-evading Stealth aircraft took off on combat missions for Baghdad. Stealth jets smashed Iraqi targets with impunity, and Stealth technology, we're told by a senior U.S. officer, obviated the need for a much larger force to deal with Iraq.

Tomahawk cruise missiles, which were fired from battleships and submarines, were also awesomely effective.

Together, the Stealth and the Tomahawk created "strategic paralysis" in Baghdad.

Precision-guided bombs (so-called smart bombs) wreaked havoc as well. At $80,000 (U.S.) a piece, they were cost-effective because one smart bomb was 100 times more accurate than a "dumb" bomb, and caused fewer civilian casualties.

Patriot missiles were rushed to Israel and Saudi Arabia.

The Patriot anti-missile system, which was rushed in to defend Israeli and Saudi Arabian population centres, receives less praise.

Iraq's relatively primitive Scud missiles were neither as slow-moving nor as easy to shoot down as analysts had imagined.

On the first night Patriots were deployed in Israel, we're informed, 28 were fired. The Patriots downed five Scuds, which broke up as they fell. Scud fragments crashed into greater Tel Aviv, calling into question the Patriots' effectiveness.

But the Patriot was not the only anti-Scud antidote in the allies' arsenal. Boeing planes, fitted with Joint Star equipment, were able to detect Scud launchers and enemy armor.

The multiple launch rocket system was tested for the first time in the brief ground war. So, too, was the Satellite Navigation Device, which tank commanders found useful.

Every victory, however, carries a price tag.

While the high-tech armada at the allies' disposal undisputably contributed to Iraq's humiliating defeat, it cost the coalition a king's ransom. In the first 24 hours of the war, about $300-million (U.S.) worth of bombs, bullets and missiles were expended.

"Wars are not cheap.

Altar Pieces tribute to writer's dad

By BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

A Canadian Jewish dentist who was injured in the World War II blitz against England, and who lay helpless in a veterans' hospital near Montreal for 27 years, died recently at the age of 86. He inspired a book written by his daughter.

Dr. Irwin Copnick was in a mobile Red Cross dental van when a buzz bomb hit nearby and the van rolled over and over in a ditch. He returned from the war to practice in Montreal but a car accident reactivated the injury to his spinal cord.

Altar Pieces, a book and a video, with illustrations by the late Saul Field, is Corinne Copnick's tribute to her father. *Altar Pieces* is composed of poems and stories based not only on the author's recollections of her father but also on personal experiences.

Dr. Copnick's wife, Gertrude, 86, still lives in Montreal. A moving story in the book tells how his wife entertained at Jewish hospitals and for groups in Montreal, taking her husband with her in a wheelchair. (He tapped his feet in time to the music) so that he would have some company. This was before he had to go into the veterans' hospital.

One of the family's proud possessions is a silver tray presented to Dr. Copnick by the Israel government in 1948 honoring the work he did for the Haganah recruiting young men in Canada to work on the ships taking Jews to the new country.

The last time my father said a word to me was 10 years ago when I told him that I would be teaching at McGill University," Copnick said. "He became quite excited and happy and he spoke in Yiddish to me for 30 seconds."

She is now working on a new book, *How To Live Alone Until You Like It* which incorporates some of the things which happened to her after her divorce and after she moved to Toronto from Montreal seven years ago. She owned an art gallery in Montreal and in Toronto has worked on various art projects, but finds she is becoming more interested in theatre. She was an actor and TV host in Montreal.

For information about *Altar Pieces* call the author at 631-6492.

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Arts

Avner provides right relief for the times

Theatre

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

The most amazing thing about Avner Eisenberg is that he's six feet tall. On stage the bearded mime is always crouching, his rubbery arms and legs flopping about in all directions, a *nebbish* if there ever was one.

But then he strides into the lobby of the Leah Posluns Theatre after his opening show, *Avner The Eccentric*, and he towers above all. It runs until Feb. 16.

His show is a wonderful antidote to the recession, especially so soon after Premier Bob Rae delivered the bad budget news. It's the kind of old-fashioned comedy that creeps up on you and lasers away any resistance to laughter.

Eisenberg, a native of Atlanta, Ga., wanted a career in herpetology (the study of snakes) but his parents talked him into a performing life instead. They had the right idea.

His show is 90 minutes long, without intermission, a difficult feat for a solo performer with a few props. Eisenberg, in fact, comes close to trespassing on his audience's goodwill, particularly in an over-long segment with one of three women he invited to the stage.

Part of the appeal of this red-nosed clown is that he could be a yeshiva bocher home for the weekend, someone who needs to be invited for a Shabbat meal. This is one reason why he is so successful with the matrons in the audience who willingly take part in his shenanigans on stage and who are already collapsing in laughter before they leave their seats. And why his identification with the audience is so complete.

But under this umbrella, Eisenberg, a movie and stage star in his own right, executes his art of mime and clowning with precision. He doesn't always flip his bowler over his shoulder onto his head the first time, but that's part of his act, he's only human. When he juggles some sticks, a few fall to the ground. But then he rolls his eyes so endearingly you forgive him.

Six-foot Avner Eisenberg executes his art of mime and clowning with precision.

His finale is absolutely sensational, an act in which he stuffs a small mountain of paper napkins into his mouth, one at a time, and then issues them much later in a wondrous new form.

Even after the show, Eisenberg, joined by his actress wife Julie, is the complete performer. "I hear you have a premier named Bob Rae," he told *The CJN*. "In the United States we have a comedy team named Bob and Rae. You're smart enough to combine them into one."

When a young lad showed him a rubber nose he bought similar to the one the mime wears, Eisenberg quickly took it from him and said "Did you get the case that goes with it?" The boy said he did not. The mime palmed the nose so it disappeared for a moment, then handed it back, saying, "the case is invisible."

This is Eisenberg's first appearance in Toronto. He starred on Broadway in *Ghetto* by Joshua Sobol, the Israeli playwright, as the ventriloquist, a play in which his wife also appeared. *Ghetto* had a controversial run in Toronto.

Friends of Yiddish get laughs

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

Yiddish is such a rich language that comedians using it can fill a hall with laughter without using a single prop. In fact, in Sholom Aleichem's *It's a Lie* the writer's mastery of his people's foibles is so complete and comedians Alan Farkas and Michael Lebovic perform it so well, you would swear you were sitting on the train to Kolomeye in Galicia with them.

One traveller (Farkas) is wheedling information from another (Lebovic) about Reb Finkelstein, a rich *gevure* squire of Kolomeye. We never learn exactly why he wants the information, though the suspicion grows that he has a *shidduch* in mind for one of Finkelstein's three daughters. Lebovic reluctantly strings out the unsavory details, pleading all the while that it is hearsay, even a lie. But Farkas, hot on the trail, is not to be denied.

Lebovic feigns an injured, almost whining innocence and his high-pitched voice contrasts sharply with Farkas' guttal lectures on morality.

All this took place at the fifth annual membership breakfast of Friends of Yiddish at Earl Bales Park attended by more than 100 people.

In another skit, adapted from *Mir Forn Kayn Tzfat* by the Israeli writer Joseph Haiblum, the pair find themselves on Highway 401. Unlucky motorist Lebovic has picked up a passenger (Farkas) but his car breaks down and he is subjected to merciless hectoring from Farkas who blames him for all the money he will lose by not arriving in Toronto on time for a business deal.

A third skit, by South African writer Hersh Shissler, dealt with two neighbors who meet in *Yenem Velt* (heaven) and comment on the frailties of the other residents, in life and in death.

The event was co-chaired by Eda Zimler-Schiff and Roz Lofsky.

The Promise of the Garden play set for Agudath Israel synagogue

TORONTO —

For a touch of Broadway right here in Toronto, don't miss Agudath Israel Sisterhood's spectacular new play, *The Promise of the Garden* on Feb. 2, 2:30 p.m. at Lawrence Park Collegiate auditorium.

Based on the adventures of Bustenai, the last surviving descendant of the House of Dovid Hamelech, the story was adapted for the stage by sisters Brindy Ehrentrau and Faige Simon.

The story evolves against a backdrop of the wars between the Persian and the Byzantine empires. It contains all the elements of a spell-binding adventure — intrigue, betrayal and the ultimate triumph of good over evil. How Bustenai narrowly escapes a terrible fate, thus assuring the survival of Bais Dovid and confirming the promise that Moshiach will descend from this dynasty, forms the substance of this play and layers the plot with an intricate pattern of plot development and complexities.

The Promise of the Garden features a cast of over 50, who act, sing, and dance their way through a complex storyline and at least nine musical numbers.

Women and older girls will appreciate the professionalism of the production and the subtleties of the plot. At the same time, children over the age of 4 will enjoy the lively dialogue, the colorful costumes, and the rollicking musical productions.

Ticket prices are $7 for women and $5 for children (boys 4-6 welcome).

Special sections have been designated for advance ticket purchasers. Also, special family rates are available to those who buy in advance.

Call Ruchama Gellis at 785-8125 for details. Tickets are available at Negev Book Store (3509 Bathurst St.) and Israel's Judaica (441 Clark Ave).

Books

By
BERNARD BASKIN

Christopher Columbus's Spanish Roots, by Jane Frances Amler (Jason Aaronson, $24.95 U.S.)

Was Columbus a Jew? The evidence is inconclusive, but many scholars believe that he was a Genoese of Spanish-Jewish origin.

This old question of Columbus's extraction is being raised anew because of the widespread celebration of the 500th anniversary of his "discovery" of America. The author, an expert on the culture and traditions of the Sephardim, has culled an impressive body of evidence to justify her feeling that Columbus had Jewish forbears.

This readable, well-researched volume deals knowledgeably with the flourishing Jewish community that existed prior to the expulsion in 1492, as well as the prime personalities, historic events and political intrigues of the time. We learn how Columbus financed his four voyages to the New World between the years 1492-1504.

After six years of futile petitioning of the king and queen of Spain for funds (the money was finally guaranteed by Luis de Santangel, the Jewish financial adviser to the throne) Columbus ventured forth on Aug. 3, 1492, in search of a new route to the Orient. This was just one day after the Jewish expulsion. After a two-month crossing, a sailor who some scholars claim was also a Converso, cried out that he saw land.

Columbus, during his lifetime, changed his name several times (Colombo, Colom, Colon) perhaps to hide his true identity. Moreover, the fact that his family were weavers, a Genoese occupation largely in Jewish hands, his familiarity with the Castilian language, his close relationship to Conversos at the Spanish Court, the ultimate backing of his voyages by Jews, his constant references to personalities from the Hebrew scriptures and his overwhelming desire to liberate Jerusalem, all lead to the conclusion that he lived a double life.

It is noteworthy that on his first voyage, Columbus took with him an interpreter who spoke Hebrew. Was he expecting to encounter members of the legendary lost tribes of Israel? If so, the persecuted Jews of Spain would find a welcome haven with their co-religionists in a new realm.

What has intrigued those in search of Columbus' true identity is his strange coded triangular signature. It is maintained that the letters stand for a kabbalistic Latinized Hebrew prayer imploring God's mercy and followed by his name and title.

Other interesting bits of evidence are the strange markings on the upper left hand corner of the page on letters that he wrote to his son. Are these Hebrew letters for the words "b'ezrat hashem" — "With the Help of God" the customary markings on letters written by observant Jews?

All the evidence suggests that Columbus was a superb navigator and cartographer, but an incompetent administrator. His policies towards the native peoples were inconsistent and cruel. Many slaves were sent back to Spain. His relations with his own men were strained because of his callousness.

This book which takes into account the basic literature on Columbus — especially the speculation concerning his Jewish background — is of absorbing interest, especially in this commemorative year.

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The keepers of the Vermont Marble Inn are (from left) Shirley Stein, Bea Taube and Richard Taube.

The Vermont Marble Inn presents lasting memories

By
STEPHANIE CHAPMAN

"You've made my storybook fairy tale come true," wrote one guest in the register.

And a fairy tale setting it is. If you are looking for a place to spend your vacation where you'll be treated like royalty, the Vermont Marble Inn is for you.

Guests come from as far away as London, England and Australia to the sleepy Vermont town called Fair Haven.

While the name of the town alone evokes many images, nothing can compare to the inn.

It's like taking a step back in time to a romantic era when people were not so rushed — when they took the time to enjoy themselves and appreciate the finer things in life.

I was looking forward to the excursion because if the inn lived up to the image portrayed in the brochure, I was in for a treat.

"At first sight, the Victorian mansion, built in 1867 of Vermont golden marble, is breathtaking. One step through the towering walnut door unveils luxury and charm unique to this magnificent country inn.

"Drink in the opulent beauty of the foyer with its 12-foot ceilings and carved moldings as it spreads before you and beakons your entry. Let your feet take you past the silent serenity of the library and towards the formal drawing room lush with appointments befitting royalty."

I was not disappointed.

The proud keepers of the inn are Bea and Richard Taube and Shirley Stein.

They purchased the inn six years ago, and today, they are just as enthralled and enthusiastic as they were on the first day of their venture.

The three have been friends for over 35 years and it is this relationship that contributes to the family and home-like atmosphere in the small, intimate setting. Despite the elaborate surroundings, I felt perfectly at home snuggling around the fire in the drawing room and drifting off to sleep.

Their commitment and dedication to the inn and their guests can be measured by the fact that they all live on the grounds. Shirley has a room in the inn while Bea and Richard have turned the coach house into their home.

How did these three Brooklyn, New York Jews, who are grandparents to boot, come to own an inn in Vermont?

"We'd always kidded around about being innkeepers but the time came when we finally decided to do it for real," Bea says, as she settles herself in the mauve wing chair in the drawing room.

"We had a great time looking for the perfect place," says Shirley, adding that they read about the sale of the Vermont Marble Inn in an innkeeper's trade newsletter.

Shirley and Bea explain that many restorations had to be made before the inn was ready for business. No major work had been done on the building since 1932. Horsehair and newspapers stuck on with molasses were among the four layers that were stripped from the walls.

However, because the new owners had to honor the reservations from the previous innkeeper, the work was done by an army of local workmen in record time. The Vermont Marble Inn was up and running within a 10 week period.

From that point six years ago until they accepted the 1991 Inn of the Year award from Vermont, their project has been "an adventure."

The inn itself is furnished by pieces that the Taubes and Shirley had in their own homes.

One thing that adds to the charm of the inn is found within the bedchambers. Each has been named for English authors and the decor has been selected to reflect the style of the person for whom they are named.

Along with the Henry Fielding room in which I slept (a large room with a marble fireplace and a huge canopy bed), the innkeepers included rooms named for William Shakespeare, Robert Burns, Elizabeth B. Browning and Jane Austin.

Many of you may be asking what there is to do at the inn.

"You mean besides eating?" is my answer.

The cuisine is excellent. The day begins with one of Shirley's famous five course breakfasts. Just the thing that is needed if your day is going to be full of skiing, shopping or hiking.

Around 4 p.m., all guests are invited to attend a high tea in the drawing room. This gives guests the chance to mix and mingle if they wish. Here, I was able to sample all of the melt-in-your-mouth pastries that had been prepared by Bea.

A few hours later, I was treated to chef Don Goodman's masterpieces. Guests should be prepared to allow well over an hour for dinner before retiring in front of one of the nearest eight marble fireplaces.

Although the food is not kosher, Bea, Shirley and Richard will go out of their way to accommodate Orthodox guests.

In the past, Orthodox guests have brought their own pans so they can prepare their own dishes in the kitchen.

Two synagogues are located not far from the inn in Rutland and Manchester.

As far as Jewish holidays are concerned, Shirley, Bea and Richard have conducted kosher-style seders for all who wish to attend. They also celebrate Chanukah and they hold yom tov meals.

The pictures that they showed me of the Jewish weddings they have had, complete with the chupah, were indescribable. The inn would also be a perfect place for a bar or bat mitzvah.

There are plenty of activities within Fair Haven and surrounding communities.

Friendship creates a home-like atmosphere

For avid antique collectors, Fair Haven houses Foundation Antiques and Red Barn Antiques. Forty to 45 minutes from the inn, skiers can hit the trails in Pico and Killington. Ungroomed cross-country trails can be found in the state parks.

In addition, the Mountain Top Cross Country Ski Resort offers a total of 28 trails. The horse back and winter sleigh rides offers guests "a memorable time they will never forget," adds Shirley.

During the summer months, the activities range from every kind of watersport to hiking and biking.

The fall months offer magnificent foliage tours. "When Vermont is in full regalia, it is such a breathtaking scene that it brings tears to your eyes," Shirley says.

For those who are yearning after an inn of their own, my hosts agree that you should leave yourself enough capital to run for one to two years. "It takes that long to crawl," Shirley says, adding that it takes imagination, ingenuity and guts to be successful.

Throughout the year, the Vermont Marble Inn is running several special weekends.

- Lovers Get-Away Weekend — Feb. 14 & 15
- Wine Lovers Weekend — March 6 & 7
- Hikers Weekend — June 5 & 6
- Thanksgiving At The Inn — Nov. 26, 27 & 28
- Murder Mystery Weekend — by special request

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The elegantly decorated drawing room of the 1867 marble mansion. The dining room and inn was rated as one of the top five in Vermont.

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Travel

TRAVEL TALK

By LEN BUTCHER

As you can se, I don't have much space this week, so I'll get right to the point to again tell you about a great tour being sponsored by **Beth Tikvah Synagogue** and escorted by **Rabbi Wayne Allen** and his wife **Patti.**

It's called the **Sephardic Heritage Tour** to **Jewish Spain** and **Israel** and runs from March 22 to April 6. The trip is limited to 47 people, but **Heather Shapero** from **Beth Tikvah** tells me there's a few seats still available. So don't sit around shmoozing over a cheese Danish. Get on the phone and call **Heather** at 731-4459 or **Rabbi Allen** at 221-3433.

On this trip you'll be visiting the cities of **Madrid, Cordoba, Granada** and **Jerusalem** while seeing the sites that make up **Jewish** history and **Jewish** life in **Spain.** The itinerary has been designed not only for interest, but for the comfort, enjoyment and safety of the participants.

It's going to be a great tour and for $3,246 CDN you can't go wrong. The only down side to it is that I won't be along but you'll have to live with that. Travel arrangements are being handled by **Aufgang Travel** (789-7117) and **The Joy of Travel** (475-3667). It's a great year to go to **Israel**, as is any year, and with the quincentennial commemoration of such an important event in Jewish history, this tour becomes even more special. Don't miss it.

* * * * *

Unbeknownst (isn't that a great word?) to most of you, I shook the shackles of **The CJN** last week and took a three-day cruise on the **Costa Classica**, a superb new ship that cost $325 million and is worth every penny.

It's part of the **Italian Costa** line that is making big waves in the cruise market. Last year, **Sunquest Vacations** signed a five-year exclusive contract with **Costa** to add to its (**Sunquest's**) already expanding cruise lineup.

The three-day sojourn was a chance to get to know the ship and for anyone who likes class, this is one ship to put on your "must" list.

I liked it so much I'm going to take the **Caribbean** cruise and will tell all when I return. In the meantime, call your travel agent and tell them the **Butcher Man** recommends **Costa Classica.** Maybe I'll see you on board.

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Business Outlook

Retail group views economy

TORONTO —

Retail Council president Alasdair J. McKichan expressed concern about the difficult financial situation facing the Ontario Government, described by Premier Bob Rae in his recent address.

"The financial problems faced by the provincial government are partly a reflection of the weakness of the economy, but they also contribute to that weakness by reducing consumer confidence," he said. "For that reason, it is very important that the province get its finances under control."

Retailers support government efforts to restrain their expenditures. "It is vital for Ontario to regain its competitiveness," said McKichan "and controlling tax levels is an important part of the equation. The continued growth of cross-border shopping shows that people are very sensitive to prices and the extra costs posed by taxes. If they can avoid paying tax they will."

Retail Council opposes allowing the deficit to rise because it is inflationary, increases the value of the dollar and only shifts the burden to future taxpayers. McKichan also opposes quick fixes such as capital expenditures because the lead times are too long. He questions whether much of the $700 million in capital funds announced in last year's budget has even been spent yet.

McKichan suggested the best way to get Ontario going again would be for the provincial government to show that it is seriously interested in making Ontario an attractive place for business. He noted: "This does not require the removal of the benefits of living in Ontario. But the government must stop sending negative signals. The proposal to give unions added power through changes in the Labor Relations Act is the single greatest threat to economic recovery."

Retail Council is the national voice of the retail trade. Direct members are representative of every sector of retailing and together account for over 70 percent of Canada's retail store volume. Affiliated with the council are approximately 100 sectoral specific and regional associations whose members, among them, account for a substantial additional percentage of retail volume.

For further information, please contact McKichan or Peter Woolford, vice-president. Phone (416) 598-4684 or fax (416) 598-3707.

No tariffs on ritual objects

By
IDELE ROSS

ST. CATHARINES —

Buying ritual objects for a synagogue can be taxing, as much as 25 percent plus GST, if the item is bought across the border.

Revenue Canada Customs and Excise recently billed Congregation B'nai Israel $212 duty for a parochet (curtain) for the Holy Ark purchased in the United States. However, six pairs of imported tefillin (phylacteries) were tax exempt.

Tariff experts explained that the discrepancy is based on different sections of the code regarding importation of religious goods. A commodities specialist at Revenue Canada said that the little known Tariff Code 2950 permits total exemption for certain items such as Torah scrolls, Kiddush sets, mezuzah boxes, havdalah sets, candles and seder plates.

Imported merchandise falling under Code 1090, such as vestments and other ritual clothing worn by Christian clergy, carry a reduced 10 percent customs fee. The specialist added that under Section 1095, Jewish ritual garments including tallesim (prayer shawls), fringes and burial shrouds are duty-free.

In the specific case of B'nai Israel, the Fort Erie-based expert speculated that duties were charged for the curtain because the inspector handling the case was unaware of the tariff codes regarding religious goods.

"For a long time, these only applied to business imports, but Revenue Canada decided that if businesses got the exemptions, so should the public," she explained. She defended the clerk in St. Catharines: "Technically he was right to bill the synagogue, because he obviously had not been exposed to the accurate tariff information."

A St. Catharines inspector agreed, but offered an additional explanation. "Maybe the guy on duty thought the curtain could also be used on a window," he reasoned. "The synagogue can enter a claim for a refund. It'll take about six weeks to process."

Author outlines retail game

By
STEPHANIE CHAPMAN

Retailing in the 1990s is a new game. The competition is unrelenting, the changes unprecedented and the economy unpredictable, says Dr. Robert Kriegel, author of the book *If it Ain't Broke, Don't Fix It!*

He told his audience at a recent Retail Council of Canada meeting that the state in which retailers find themselves today is the norm.

"It's going to get faster, more competitive and harder ... and those businesses that wait for things to "get back to normal," will be left behind. 'If it ain't broke, don't fix it' is an attitude that has destroyed companies," he says.

Kriegel likened the retailing industry to the ocean and waves. He urges retailers to move before the next wave strikes.

He says his book describes the type of thinking that is needed to keep ahead. In essence, he says there are four types of conventional wisdom that have to be broken.

The first trap retailers fall into is the one that tells them to play it safe.

"There are plenty of companies that have done well during the recession but they were not following conventional thinking. They have been constantly innovative. These retailers were increasing their advertising budgets and promoting new products.

"Keep in mind that while you're holding back, others are moving forward," he says.

He states that the second trap is the philosophy of try harder, work faster.

"Speed mentally leads to the 'gottas' and this leads to stress.

"If you think about business communications and services, they are innovative areas. And, where do they get their ideas? From listening and watching.

"When businesses stop listening, the quality, service and innovation decreases," Kriegel says.

He adds that the '60s saying, "Speed kills" is still true today.

"We tend to take fast steps and make little, stupid mistakes. Retailers have to learn to break the speed trap because taking it easy at 90 percent is better than a panicked 110 percent."

The third conventional-wisdom Kriegel cites is the one that says you have to be an expert and know the business inside and out.

"The problem with experts is that they have to have a formula. They tend to bring yesterday's answers to today's problems.

"We have to learn to think not as an expert but like a beginner — clearly and open-minded. Round up those sacred cows that have established ways things are done. Ditch out those 5-year-old ideas and have the courage to challenge assumptions."

The final trap that retailers fall into has to do with competition.

"Competition breeds conformity. I say don't conform, change the game. You have to be able to ask yourself what kind of game are we in?

"Then, you have to have the courage to stand back and re-design the field."

He cites the example of the buyers co-operative that was formed to combat discounters.

"They broke the rules," he says, adding that if retailers want to survive, they have to re-invent the game.

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Firm outlines the advantages of investing in mutual funds

By
JEFF ROSEN

TORONTO —

Come the first few months of each year investors' are bombarded with a flood of information about where to put their money in order to obtain maximum returns.

Often, to the uninformed, the numerous options available — RRSP (Registered Retirement Savings Plans) or non-RRSP, bonds, income and mutual funds, money market funds, balanced funds — offered by banks, trust companies, investment houses and financial dealers all appear the same.

While each type of investment has its benefits and drawbacks, mutual funds definitely provide the most efficient instrument in the world, says Richard Hamm, senior vice-president at Trimark Investment Management Inc., a company which last year handled about a million transactions — roughly 40 per cent of which were classified as RRSP accounts — for over 240,000 clients.

"Mutual funds were designed to take care of people who couldn't afford the services of big investment counselling-type operations," said Hamm. "The advantages are mind-boggling."

He said that mutual funds are advantageous as they provide liquidity to allow investors to get their money when they need it, diversification to allow investors to buy into a large portfolio, professional management and convenience in terms of tax reporting.

"The only disadvantage I can think of is that you don't have absolute control over what security you may want to buy," he said. "However that is sort of insignificant when compared to the advantages."

Hamm said mutual funds are often misunderstood as people don't know enough about them. He pointed out that in 1987, Decima Research conducted a poll which found that 70 percent of respondents did not know what a mutual fund was. While still remaining a mystery to many, Hamm said banks are doing a great job in helping to educate the public.

"They are really the simplest concept in the world," he explained. "It's just a big barrel of money and everybody puts their money in according to what they have. It's then all lumped together and the manager looks after the investment objective of each barrel separately."

The objective depends on the type of fund being considered.

Hamm said that in terms of the various funds, growth funds may vacillate a lot, balanced funds vacillate somewhat and never do as well in the long run as growth funds and interest funds do much worse. For this reason, Trimark does not promote its interest fund as much.

"I view it as a short term parking place," said Hamm, pointing out that some financial institutions which actively promote interest and money market funds failed to properly explain the investment which has experienced declining interest rates in the past year.

Trimark has seven mutual funds, five of which meet federal government requirements for RRSPs.

While best to buy mutual funds on a regular basis when you have the cash available, Hamm said sales balloon in February and March as RRSP deadlines approach. Hamm said the only difference between RRSP and non-RRSP sales is that in the former the distribution of capital gains is deferred.

Housing markets studied

TORONTO —

Canada's housing markets continue to limp along in the face of the persistent economic recession.

According to a quarterly house price survey released by Royal LePage, prices in every major centre in the country have softened in the past three months.

And once again, the only bright spot was the market for more affordably-priced homes. Driven by first-time buyers and those trading down, demand and prices for lower-priced homes are reported to be steady in most areas.

"With relatively weak retail sales at Christmas and more bad news such as the threat of more layoffs, it's not surprising many people are wary about buying homes," says Gino Romanese, executive vice-president of Royal LePage Residential Real Estate Services. "Their first concern is job security. To this point, falling interest rates haven't made much of a dent in consumer confidence."

Romanese made his comments with the release of the January issue of the Royal LePage Survey of Canadian House Prices. The quarterly study tracks the prices of seven categories of homes in over 200 communities across the country.

Toronto continues to be one of the markets most affected by the downturn. At $195,000, the median price of a three-bedroom bungalow in the Toronto area has dipped below $200,000 for the first time in three years.

Even Ottawa, often said to be recession-proof because of the stabilizing influence of the public sector, is experiencing a slower-than-average market. The number of homes sold during the last quarter of 1991 was down compared to the previous quarter, but Royal LePage attributes this to the normal seasonal adjustment. However, there is little demand for homes over $200,000.

The resale housing market in Montreal continues to be flat, with softening house prices. The Quebec market has been relatively slow for over three years.

Throughout the Atlantic provinces, housing sales continue to be sluggish, with increasing downward pressure on higher-priced homes.

Western markets, such as Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton are now feeling the effects of the recession, too, with slower housing sales and lower prices.

In Winnipeg, prices remained relatively stable compared to the fall of 1991, but there were fewer listings. According to Glenn Ponomarenko, vice-president and regional manager for Royal LePage in Winnipeg, purchasers don't appear to have confidence in the market, even though interest rates keep falling.

Royal LePage reports listings in Saskatoon are down four percent and unit sales are up six percent over 1991 at this time, countering a steady decline over the last few years. The newly-elected NDP government is expected to have a positive impact on the real estate market, in both Regina and Saskatoon, particularly its cancellation of the previous government's decentralization plan to move government employees out of the capital.

In and around Calgary depressed prices for oil and gas continue to negatively influence the housing market. Ted Zaharko, vice-president of Royal LePage for the Southern Alberta area, states, "When we start to see stability in the oil patch, we will see moderate increases in prices and activity in the real estate market."

Ken Shearer, a Royal LePage vice-president in Edmonton, echoes Zaharko's comments, but adds that while prices have decreased slightly in Northern Alberta, the market is still fair for both buyers and sellers. "Buyers seem to be waiting for interest rates to bottom out," he says.

In British Columbia, despite the uncertainty caused by the change in government, prices in some areas are rising, notably the interior, where increases of 10 percent to 20 percent are common. In Vancouver, the market has softened, but there are early signs of buyer activity. Demand is strongest from first-time buyers, keeping prices for starter homes such as detached bungalows up compared to a year ago, but still lower than prices in the Fall of 1991.

(Note: The median price is at the mid-point of all housing prices when prices from different areas are ranked in order from highest to lowest. Fifty percent of homes are priced higher than the median price and 50 percent are priced lower. Median prices are considered a more accurate reflection of house price trends than mean average prices, because they are not influenced by relatively few high-priced properties.)

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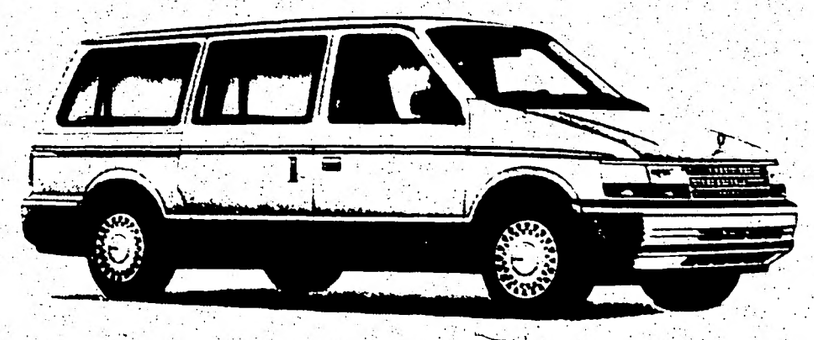
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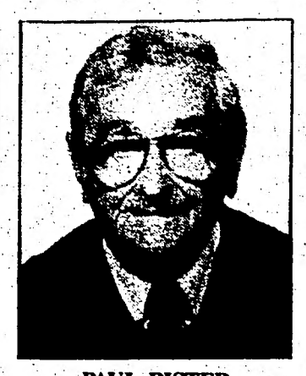

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FOREST HILL TOWNHOUSE — $327,000!!
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Upgraded but still trad charm + hrdwd! 3 bdrms, new kit. Must sell! Lynda Stoneman 226-1987.

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Fab 4 bdrm home, mn floor family room, laundry, 3 walkout, Halogen lights. R. Samery 886-1988.

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Gracious principal rooms for entertaining. Main flr fam rm, hrdwd flrs. Lynda Stoneman 226-1987.

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New on the market. Grand Tudor perfect for entertaining, main flr. fam. rm. with walk-out/o to pool, 5 bdrms. + den. CAC. *Linda Rose.

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$225,000. Stunning views. 1 bedroom suite + den, parquet floors. Underground parking. Priced to sell! Call *Ron Cowan.

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BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS
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HEART OF THE ANNEX
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BAYVIEW & GREEN LANE — 2 BEDROOM
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BATHURST-STEELES — BEGIN HERE!
$212,000. Super 3 bdrm., fin. bsmt., near all amenities. Terry Balaban, 731-7111.

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BATHURST STEELES — IN-LAW APT. — $259,900
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BAYVIEW-WILLOWBROOK — GREAT START
3 Bdrm. Fireplace. Fin bsmnt. $234,900 Ted Waxman 731-7111.

SPRING FARM — HOMES & GARDENS
Fabulous 3 bdrm., mn. flr. fam., $269,900. Marilyn Ray, 731-7111.

BATHURST-STEELES — AT THE PARK
4 Bdrm. New kit., dbl. gar. $279,900. Ted Waxman 731-7111.

BATHURST-YORK HILL — 1ST AD — $349,900
4 bdrm., lg. kitch., in-law apt., Perry Waisglass, 731-7111.

YORK HILL — ONE LOOK WILL DO!
4 bdrm., fin. bsmnt., a must see! $339,900. Susan Kruger, 731-7111.

SPRING FARM — WALK TO BETH AVRAHAM
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BATHURST MANOR — $274,900
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Realty Limited

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BATHURST/CLARK JUST LISTED STUNNING 4-bdrm, loaded, hot tub, sauna, pool, large lot, satellite dish, appliances, lrge. bdrm, ceramics, parquet, dble. garage, main flr. laund, white kit, landscaped. *L. Langer

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CLARK/HILDA FIRST TIME BUYERS HURRY! 3-bdrm, full master ensuite, fin. bsmt, garage opener, walk to synagogue and all amenities. *Sarah Bzowski

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10 PRUE CONDO
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13 Apartments For Rent

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Bathurst/Lawrence - 1 bedroom basement. Private entrance. Close to shopping, synagogue and transportation. 782-9982. 8512

Bathurst/Sheppard - Bungalow-upper level. Furnished/ unfurnished 3 bedrooms. Living/ dining. C.A.C. New appliances/ laundry. Garage parking. 631-7738.

Bathurst/York Downs - Furnished/ unfurnished bachelor basement. Appliances. Parking. Separate entrance. 631-7738.

Allen/Lawrence - Main floor 3 bedroom, 2 bath in 6-plex. Laundry, parking, balcony. 783-8431 days, 886-5515 evenings. 8332

24 Florida Property For Sale

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Social and Tennis Equities Incl.
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- Vardon Down, great location $105,000. Golf available!!
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North Miami. 1 bedroom, 2 full baths. 2 walk-in closets. 1 parking. $35,000. 626-1788, 305-947-5923. 8495

33 Vacation Properties

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37 Investment Opportunities

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38 Announcements

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42 Articles for Sale

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46 Employment Opportunities

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47 Employment Wanted

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6 Condominiums For Sale

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- **PRIMROSE.** Great view. $212,000. Perry Waisglass, 731-7111.
- **PRIMROSE.** Penthouse $187,500. S. Kruger, 731-7111.
- **PRIMROSE.** 2 bd., sol., $184,900. Garry Hazin, 731-7111.
- **133 TORRESDALE.** 3 bd. $209,900. Susan Hochman, 731-7111.
- **205 HILDA.** 3 bd. $164,900. Garry Hazin, 731-7111.
- **360 RIDELLE**, 1 bd. $112,900. Bella Beer, 731-7111.

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7 Condominiums For Rent

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8 Condominiums For Rent/Sale

Bathurst/Steeles. Primrose. Luxury corner. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Balcony. 5 appliances. Blinds. Immediately. 736-1780, 638-3829.

12 Shared Accommodation

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15 Duplex/ Townhouse For Rent

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23 Florida Property For Rent

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6 Condominiums For Sale
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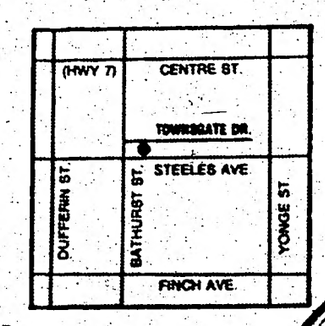

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51 Domestic Help Wanted

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52 Personals

Tel-Aide: the Jewish Distress Line. Can we add some sunshine to your life? 636-9610. 8002

53 Business Personals

Professional and Business Singles- Meet attractive, intelligent and compatible people. Call Dr. Fren & Associates. Reasonable. 28 years of successful introductions, 691-7775. Mississauga, 270-5635. Guelph, 767-2104. 8181

Jewish Introductions International. Local and personalized. All ages. 1-800-624-9244. 9229

The Jewish Connection. A video introduction service for single Jewish adults. 5505 Yonge Street. 512-8124. 8289

One on One. Singles magazine invites you to submit a free personal ad and photo to our full colour international magazine. 603-0474. 8485

Welcome to the '90s. Relationships are in. If you're looking for more than just a dance partner, call Jewish Dateline 789-0110. 8344

Contemporary Singles- A unique, affordable way for Jewish singles to meet. 250-1345. 8198

Jou Jou proudly presents a new unique concept for dating service plus singles events equals fun and enjoyment. If you're 25-38, single, marriage-minded only, for a personal and confidential appointment call 781-0939 for more information. 8374

54 Personal Companions

REPLYING TO A COMPANION AD WITH A *CJN* BOX NUMBER?

For these ads simply address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420
Don Mills, Ontario M3C 3A1

Missing Glass Slipper: Will the Prince who has it please respond. If you are between 42-56, dashingly handsome (more importantly honest and nice), romantic, successful in all aspects of life and in search of the last love of your life, then I'm the gal you've been looking for (non-smoking, 46, pretty, petite, warm, happy, funny, tactile, with a great positive attitude and an innate passion for love, life and adventure). I'm searching for that very special one-of-a-kind guy to be my unconditional best friend/lover; someone to whom giving is as necessary as it is to me and who loves to share- intimacy, hugs, smiles... chocolate chip cookies! **Think a moment, wouldn't it be nice to be in love again?... Besides, I can't dance with just one slipper**. Box 5353 CJN. 8483

A tall, fit, handsome, successful, business professional, 34 years old, B.A. English Literature, seeks attractive female in 20's, who works out, is intellectually active, loves fashion and the arts and would like a relationship with a sensitive and romantic male. Box 5349 CJN. 8446

A happy, pretty, mid-30's Jewish female, ready to settle down, looking for successful, outgoing Jewish male, 33-43, who is ready for commitment. Picture preferrable. Box 5354 CJN. 8487

Uncle Fester, mid-30's, seeks Morticia (30-35). Cousin It need not apply. Reply Box 5355 CJN.

Professional female, very pretty, athletic, slim, 5'8", 31, seeking marriage minded male, Dr., D.D.S, L.L.B., C.A., etc. 30-45, 5'10"- 6'4". Include photo if possible. Box 5334 CJN. 8331

Help!!- Stop- Female, 27- Stop- Upbeat, cute, bright, warm & sincere- Stop- Interested in meeting funny, smart, caring, romantic, adventurous guy- Stop- P.O. Box 1273, Station "B" Downsview, M3H 5V6 (Decoder optional). 8408

Attractive, single Jewish female, early 30's, professional who enjoys the outdoors and culture, is looking to meet an attractive man who is intelligent, ambitious, mature, sophisticated yet down to earth and insightful. Also, it is important to me that he is comfortable with sharing his thoughts and feelings. Non-smoker please. Box 5350 CJN. 8448

Serious and beautiful lady, looking for a respectable man 48-60. P.O. Box 157, Thornhill, Ontario, L3T 3N3. 8480

54 Personal Companions

Man, 35, secular Jew, lives in Ottawa, intelligent, well-educated, handsome, interesting with many interests, desires to make a commitment with a Jewish woman to develop an egalitarian, loving relationship. Box 5352 CJN. 8476

Attractive, athletic professional male, early 30's. Seeks female companion. Box 5329. 8492

55 Obituaries

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789-7651

55 Obituaries

17th Yahrzeit
In memory of Israel Isadore Ickowitz who passed away suddenly on January 25th, 1975. Sadly missed by his beloved wife Bessie, relatives and friends. 8452

Goldschmied, Leslie on January 10, 1992, late of 469 Deloraine Ave.
Kane, Doris on January 14, 1992, late of 46 Laurel Crest Ave.
Katz, Josif on January 12, 1992.
London, Ethel on January 14, 1992, late of 111 Ridelle Ave., #601.
Perzow, Mitchell on January 12, 1992.
Reed, Brian Michael on January 13, 1992.
Rosenthal, Mark on January 14, 1992, late of 146 Almore Ave.
Simrod, Herbert on January 12, 1992, late of Orangeville, Ontario.
Statman, Lillian on January 18, 1992, late of 6030 Bathurst St., #814. 8484

Steeles-College Memorial Chapel

55 Obituaries

Anne Cohen on Jan 4/92, late of 4266 Bathurst St. #508.
Joseph Wasservogel on Jan 5/92, late of 43 Dewson Street #1.
Jack Himelfarb on Jan 3/92, late of 6200 Bathurst St. #910.
Edith Posner on Jan 5/92, late of 1035 Eglinton Avenue W. #407.
Frida Perlova on Jan 7/92, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Florence Rosichan on Jan 6/92, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Clara Reicher on Jan 6/92, late of 15 St. Matthews.
Benjamin Kleiman on Jan 6/92, late of 268 Ridley Blvd. #915.
Morris Rosenbaum on Jan 7/92, late of 55 Skymark Drive #2802.
Marilyn Richmond on Jan 9/92, late of 24 Gardiner Road.
Samuel Elsner on Jan 9/92, late of 97 Denlow Blvd.
Percy Arbes on Jan 10/92, late of 6250 Bathurst St. #207.
Sylvia Fine on Jan 8/92, late of 45 McAllister Road.
Albert Robins on Jan 10/92, late of 35 Canyon Avenue #1801.
Morris Freeman on Jan 9/92, late of 18 Robbie Avenue.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

The Canadian Jewish news

has a great line up of special supplements coming up . . .

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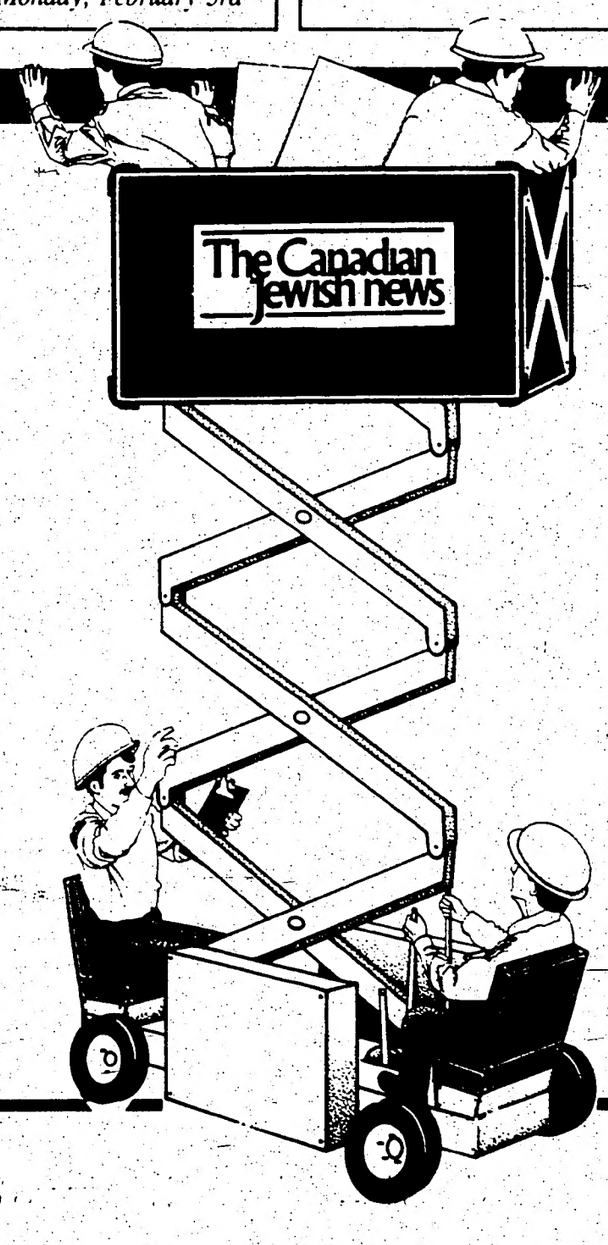
HOME LIVING	**BUSINESS**	**REAL ESTATE Advertorial**	**TRAVEL Advertorial**
	Deadline for Advertising Monday, February 3rd		*Deadline for Advertising Monday, February 3rd*



Jewish agency leader outlines problems in Moscow

TORONTO —

A breakfast of fruit, salads, breads, fish and cheeses at the Professional Divisions telethon for the United Jewish Appeal/Operation Exodus of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto was recently juxtapoosed against a Sunday afternoon in the former Soviet Union, as Yuli Kosharovsky, deputy head of the Jewish Agency in Moscow, described hunger and panic on the food lines that has been taking its toll on Jewish citizens.

Kosharovsky addressed the 60 volunteers at the Lipa Green Building via a live telephone link-up to Moscow which was aired over the public address system.

Kosharovsky holds the record as the longest-term Refusenik — having waited 18 years to emigrate to Israel. During that time, he became an outspoken leader of the Soviet aliyah movement, and even addressed former president Ronald Reagan during a visit to Moscow.

Two years ago, he emigrated to Israel with his wife, three sons and his mother-in-law. Kosharovsky found work in his field of engineering. He returned to the Soviet Union, as a senior Israeli representative, openly working in the aliyah effort.

"We are involved in the pre-absorption activities here, such as consultation and teaching Hebrew," Kosharovsky said. "We work among the youth. We have access to the mass media."

He described the unpredictable politics in the newly formed, 11-state commonwealth, noting that the economy and military, once centralized, are now unstable, unpredictable and sometimes dangerous.

"There are a lot of minefields in the way," Kosharovsky said.

The Muslim states have swung toward Muslim fundamentalism and are looking to Iran for spiritual support, he said.

He described a five-fold inflation. He said that Jews, who were generally well-educated and lived in relative comfort, have been entering the poverty ranks.

"There are rackets and crime. People on the food lines are angry because of the high prices," Kosharovsky explained. "The political parties are trying to prove their points of view. There is a lot of tension."

Although he would not discuss details about specific airlifts to Israel, Kosharovsky said that a direct flight infrastructure was being created. There are over a million Soviet Jews who have received invitations from Israel, he explained. Many of those will make the move, despite rampant rumors about unemployment and housing problems in Israel.

Peter Chodos co-chairman of the Professionals Division, of the investment firm Loewen, Ondaatje & McCutcheon, described the telethon as "the end of a good campaign. Everyone worked twice as hard to maintain their own personal standard of living, yet, we still managed to get an overall increase."

So far, there has been an increase of over 21 percent in pledges over last year, on a card for card basis.

The Professional Divisions Telethon represented 14 divisions.

Volunteer solicitors contacted 8,900 UJA potential donors from the Professionals Division. A total of $180,000 was raised at the telethon.

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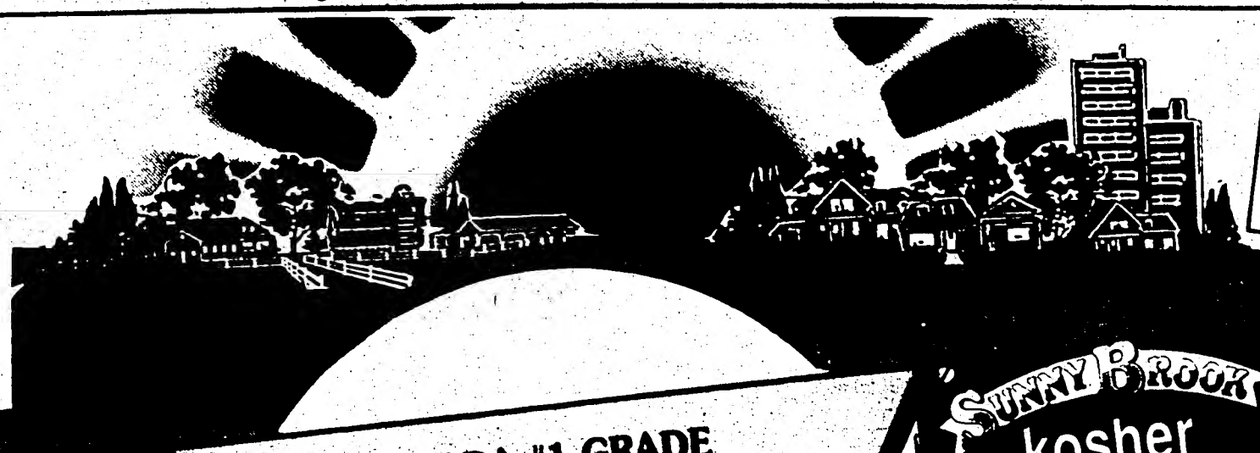

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GR8 BYS

CARS '92

YOURS TO DISCOVER

NEW 92S

Supplement to The Canadian Jewish News

Parkwood Central caters to clients

Customer service is the name of the game in any industry today but The New Parkwood Central has taken it a step further.

Not only does owner Paul Stern ensure that each customer receives the same top-quality service but he has on staff two well-known Jewish sales and leasing people who cater specifically to the needs of the Jewish community.

These sales people are Trevor Ben-Zion Kahn and Morris Siegel.

"Come buy a car here," says Ben-Zion Kahn. "What we are trying to do is not only build the Jewish connection but have people on staff who really understand what you need.

"Whether you're looking for a car to use for car pooling or you need a luxury car, we know what the different stages are and we can match them with what you need," says Ben-Zion Kahn, adding that with three children he knows you spend your life car pooling.

It is Stern's dedication to the industry that brought him from his position in management and sales 12 years ago to his present day ownership of two dealerships today. In addition to The New Parkwood Central Stern also owns Toronto Dodge Chrysler.

"Paul is a hands-on dealer. It is common for him to be on the floor dealing with the customer. He plays a very visable role." says Ben-Zion Kahn, adding that it is everyone's job to keep the customer happy during the entire lifetime of the car.

"We do a tremendous repeat business here — once you've driven one of our cars, you'll always come back," he says.

"The one thing that makes a successful salesman is the ability to make the customer feel at ease. Price is very important, but personal relationships are too. When times are tough, service is what counts. If the customer gets the service, the salesman gets the sale."

He adds that while the today's customer is cautious, people are still buying cars. He says that the clients are not just from the upper end of the scale. Instead, cars are being purchased by clients from the complete economic spectrum.

The New Parkwood Central is located at Yonge and Eglinton. They are open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Thursday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Customer service drives Toronto Dodge

This month, Toronto Dodge Chrysler is celebrating its fifth anniversary.

The dealership opened in January 1987 in a building that had originally been a Bell telephone warehouse.

Needless to say, in just five years, Toronto Dodge Chrysler has transformed the building into one of the most modern dealerships in the city, says Doug Love, sales manager of the organization.

He is quick to point out that the dealership, owned by Paul Stern, has consistently been listed in the top 10 as far as volume is concerned and the service department has been in the top five from the standpoint of customer satisfaction.

"The success of the dealership has been based on customer referrals as well as our convenience to the downtown core.

"Toronto, as a city, is truly multicultural and Toronto Dodge Chrysler prides itself on its multicultural staff and its ability to greet customers in 14 different languages, including Hebrew," says Love.

May Raksha and John Samson are both Hebrew-speaking sales representatives who are members in good standing of the Chrysler Sales Guild (a very prestigious group of salespeople based on sales achievement and customer satisfaction).

The dealership's dedication to customer service is illustrated further by the customer shuttle service that travels to and from the subway and neighboring businesses.

As far as trends within the industry, Love says there are two current models that are doing well at his dealership — the Caravan and the Stealth.

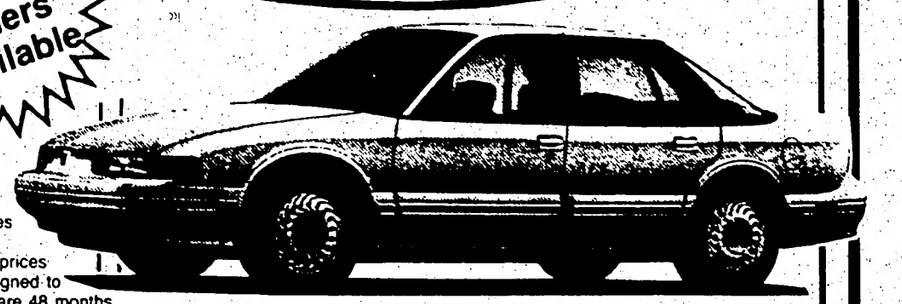
Love says that due to their location, at 321 Front St. E at Parliament, Toronto Dodge Chrysler tends to attract upper-end clients and the Stealth is geared to this market segment.

As far as overall trends are concerned, safety features and environmental factors are driving the industry. Air bags are now considered essential and there is an emphasis on fuel economy.

In fact, he says that today's full size cars now get better or equal mileage compared to what used to be associated with the mid-sized cars.

NEW PARKWOOD
CHEV-OLDS-GEO-CADILLAC

19 Others Available



All prices shown are plus freight, license and all taxes. Any rebates allowed are reflected in sale prices with rebates assigned to dealers. Leases are 48 months, OAC, with 96,000 KM included. $500 security deposit is required.

1992 OLDS CUTLASS SUPREME 4 DR.

Featuring AIR, metallic paint, big V6 engine, 4 speed, AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, stereo with cassette, buckets, 4 wheel disc brakes, electric mirrors, cruise control, tilt wheel, pulse wipers and so much more.

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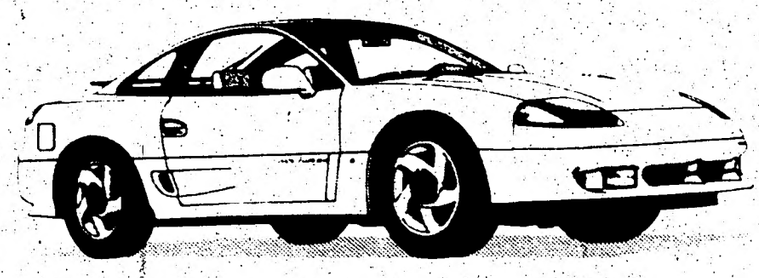
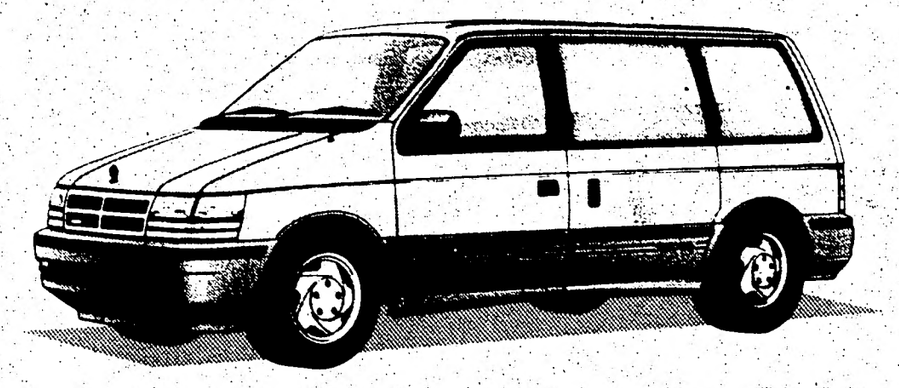
1992 STEALTH



1992 GRAND CARAVAN LE



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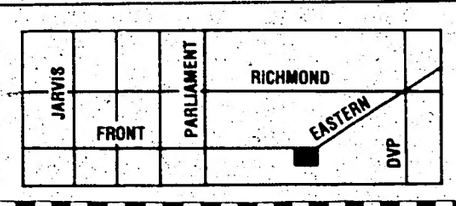


Price, service key at Rumble Pontiac Buick

Steven Korne is presently working with Rumble Pontiac Buick located at Bayview and Eglinton.

He began his employment in 1983.

He explains that his family has been involved with the automobile industry since 1938. It began with his grandfather who owned a parts, manufacturing and wholesale shop.

The reins were then taken up by Korne's father who was the president of the Antique and Classic Car Club, Toronto Region in 1975. He became the national president a year later, and in 1990-91, he wrote the judging rules for the Antique Car Show that is held at the Canadian National Exhibition.

It stands to reason that with Korne's family involvment with the automobile industry, Korne's interest is more than a hobby. Since he grew up surrounded by automobiles, his knowledge of the industry is extensive.

He quickly points out that he finds selling cars most rewarding, even though he spent some time as a business and sales manager which gives him more flexibility and credibility in his career.

"I am devoted to giving the best price and service on any make or model of a new or used car. Give me a call because I can honestly sell you a car for the best price — service included."

Korne's dedication to customer service and quality can be seen in his past achievements. In one year, he won six awards for the highest accomplishment in sales.

"As a company, we are in General Motors' books as the No. 1 rated customer service dealer for 1991 and this is not the first time we have achieved the highest rating."

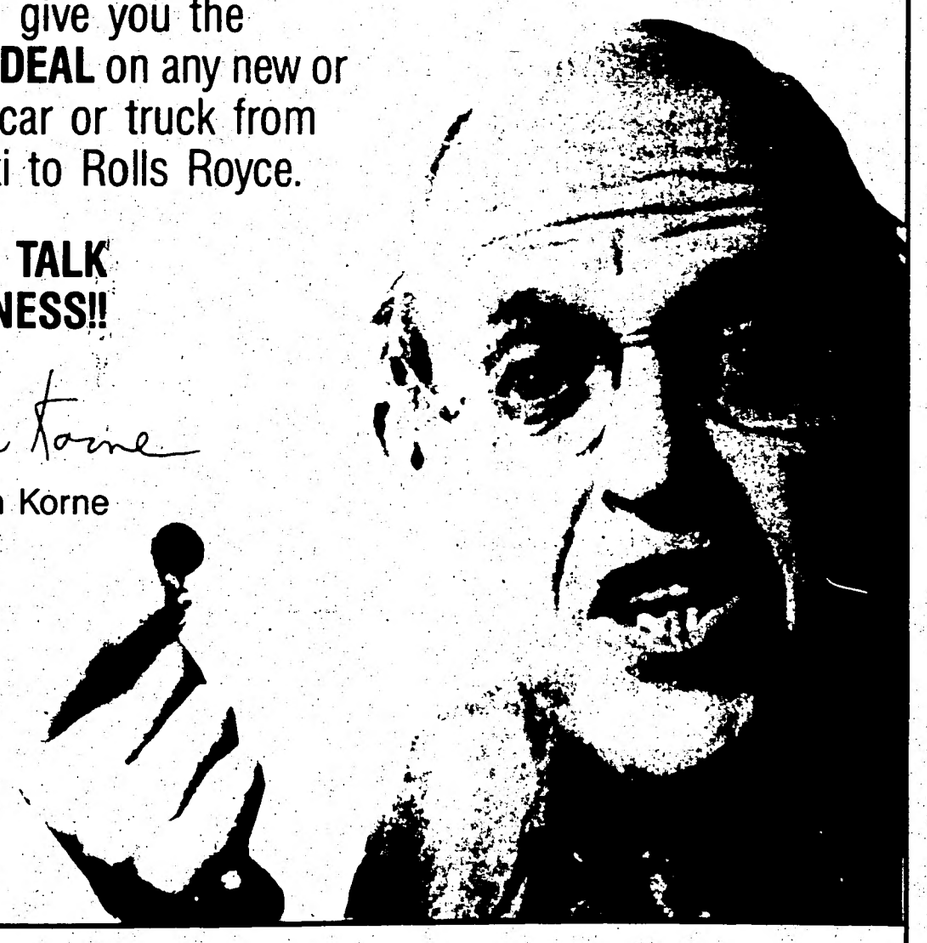
Rumble Pontiac Buick is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Thursday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

"DON'T GO FOR PENNIES WHEN YOU CAN GO FOR THOUSANDS"

"I will give you the **BEST DEAL** on any new or used car or truck from Suzuki to Rolls Royce.

LET'S TALK BUSINESS!!

Steven Korne



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1991 GM Dealer Rated #1 in overall customer satisfaction

We can't wait

February 13 is a special day on the calendar at The CJN. This is the date of our REAL ESTATE supplement which brings potential buyers and realtors together. There has never been a better time to buy real estate--great prices, low mortgage rates. DON'T MISS this informative and interesting supplement.

And remember. The next day is VALENTINE'S DAY. What could be sweeter than buying your spouse a house.

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Value for investment at Infiniti of Willowdale

At Infiniti of Willowdale, automobile shoppers will find first class service, courtesy vehicles, longer and more comprehensive warranties, roadside emergency assistance and inexpensive maintenance costs.

These factors should be considered in addition to the purchase price when purchasing a luxury car. Today's luxury car buyer is much more well-informed and sophisticated, and demands more value for his investment. With the Infiniti product line, the above factors form an integral part of the purchasing decision.

Ron Friedman and Barry Shulman who have been with the company since its inception stress the intensive training that all Infiniti of Willowdale personnel undergo several times a year, part of the commitment to excellence this company has vowed to achieve.

Selection

"We want to earn our community's business and we will work very hard to do so," said Mark Falkenberg, general manger.

Infiniti's Total Ownership Experience satisfies these critical needs and sets them apart from all other competitors.

Complementing the Total Ownership Experience is a selection of some of the finest cars in the world.

The flagship "Q45" sedan sets new standards for performance, handling and style. Already proven to be one of the most trouble-free cars on the road, the Q45 has won numerous industry and consumer awards given by respected automotive authorities.

Fully equipped

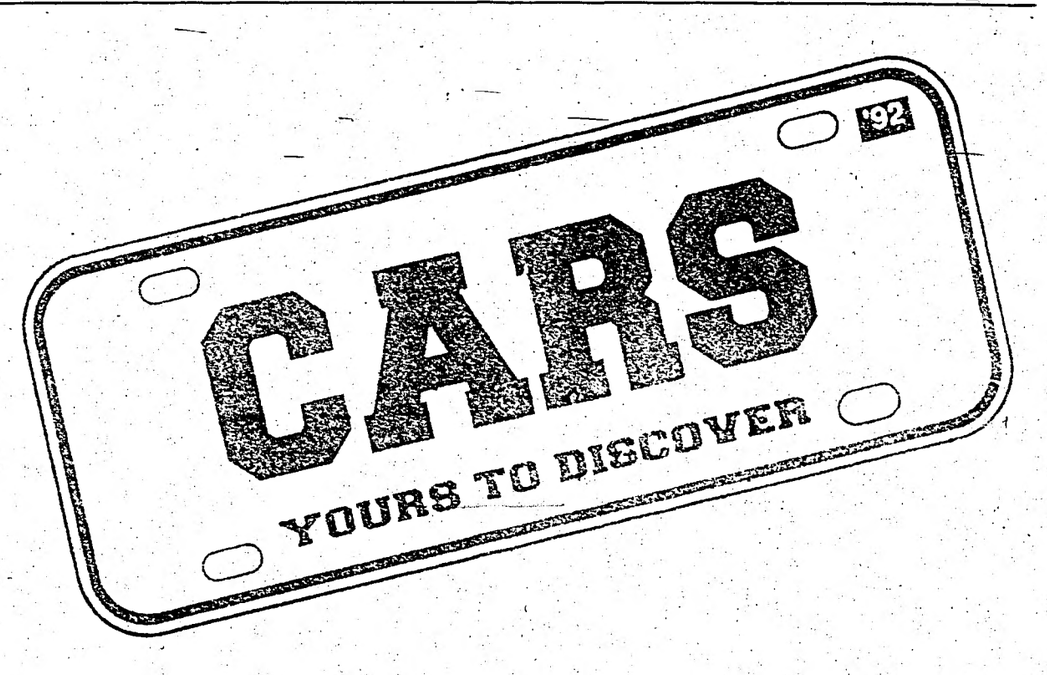
The G20 sports sedan has been called the best car in its class against its more established and expensive European competition.

The new J30 personal luxury sedan which will debut at the automobile show, exhibits Infiniti's continuing commitment to offer a full range of luxury cars to the discriminating consumer.

Given that all Infiniti models come fully equipped with leather interior, sunroof, ABS brakes, air conditioning and all power amenities, and feature the industry-leading four-year/100,000 kilometre bumper to bumper warranty, it is amazing that the Infiniti starts at under $25,000.

In fact due to the various financial services offered by Infiniti of Willowdale, ownership of an Infiniti may be significantly easier than you think.

Infiniti of Willowdale is located at 7200 Yonge St. just north of Steeles.



Top quality repairs done at David Stern

May we have the next dents? This is the slogan at David Stern Auto Collision, but their reputation is based on top quality collision work and superior craftsmanship at affordable prices.

At David Stern Auto Collision, free written estimates are cheerfully provided, and clients are reassured by the knowledge they are dealing with a CAA approved repair facility, a shop that is preferred by Toronto's leading insurance companies.

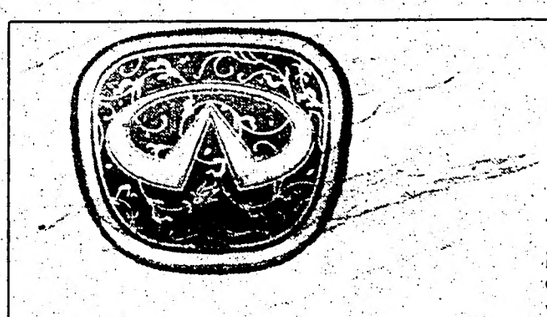
Guarantee

The highly qualified staff there are very proud of their stand on service. It is comforting, especially after an accident, to talk to experienced, compassionate professionals who are willing to help in any way. With over 18 years in the industry, David Stern has earned the trust and respect of his customers. The walls of his office are lined with thank-you letters from corporate fleets, dealerships, and private car owners, all of whom are grateful for the service received.

As a member of the Toronto Collision Repair Society as well as the Ontario Collision Repair Association, David Stern Auto Collision is kept abreast of all new technology, and is committed to providing the best in repairs and refinishing.

With a one-year written guarantee on their work, you'll make the right choice when you bring your vehicle to David Stern Auto Collision. For service you can trust, call 425-8800.

May we have the next dents?



THE ART OF LUXURY.

The arts bring us pleasure. And, if a particular piece brings us the kind of pleasure that grows overtime as we discover new details or nuances, we call it a masterpiece.

We'd like to introduce you to two masterpieces of luxury. The Infiniti Q45 luxury performance sedan and the G20 luxury sports sedan. Both have set a new standard of driving pleasure. A standard that we call the Infiniti *Total Ownership Experience.* It begins with your first visit to a Infiniti showroom, where you find quiet surroundings and staff who treat you as an honoured guest. It continues with an extended guest drive which introduces you to Infiniti automobiles.

And, should you purchase an Infiniti, you will find that this high level of service and respect continues for as long as you own your automobile. No detail has been overlooked to ensure that your driving and ownership pleasure actually grows over time.

The Infiniti *Total Ownership Experience.* It's the art of luxury.

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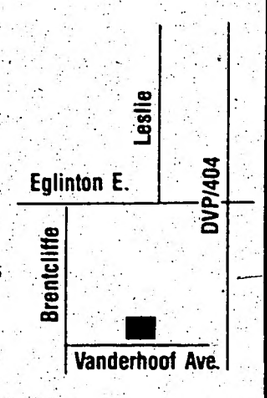

Firm says service is central to business

At North York Chevrolet Oldsmobile Ltd., service is the driving force behind the operation.

The company employs over 100 people in its sales and servicing departments to make sure customers are satisfied and don't have to wait long.

Recently the service facilities were expanded to include a fast service lane to handle lube and oil changes in 20 minutes while the customers wait.

Service director Bill McKee said the demand for quick service was incredible. The service centre required exclusive facilities for lube jobs. McKee said the drive-through lanes can now offer quick service and customer satisfaction.

He said the new drive-through lanes and draw business and provide customer convenience. The Rapid Lube uses only top grades of oil, and offers a choice of two grades for older vehicles.

North York Chev Olds has consistently been one of General Motors' largest volume sales outlets over the years. Noel Croxon, company president, was voted *Time* magazine's Quality Award Winning Dealer in 1983.

In addition to sales and service, the company has a large lease fleet which leases all types of cars and trucks.

Of course, no one likes to get into an accident but should it ever happen, the collision and paint facilities at North York Chev Olds are second to none. There are three downdraft booths for painting and the modern Blackhawk frame machine for collision repairs.

The service centre also features a newly-constructed parts retail store which sells GM clothing, accessories and car phones. McKee said the total bill for this and the fast service lane was about $250,000 but worth every penny.

Maintenance program

McKee said parts retail stores are becoming very popular and he hopes to attract customers through weekly ads, in house promotions and coupons.

The company has a personal maintenance program based on the customer's mileage. A coupon booklet given to the customers shows how often, and when, a car needs servicing.

North York Chevrolet Oldsmobile has been in business with its present owners for 23 years, working out of its location at 7200 Yonge St. (just north-west of Yonge and Steeles) since 1981. For more information call 881-5000.

State-of-the-art sedans are available in the new Mercedes-Benz line-up

Five all-new S-Class sedans lead the 1992 Mercedes-Benz line-up.

The new cars, bristling with technical innovations ranging from double-pane side windows to a networking of onboard computers and advanced safety standards, are the first new large sedans from the Stuttgart automaker in 11 years.

"The new S-Class sedans clearly set the benchmark for safety, comfort, quality and environmental compatibility, while delivering the kind of performance and response Canadian drivers have asked for," says Paul Halata, president of Mercedes-Benz Canada.

Technological advancements

While retaining a clear family resemblance, the technically innovative new models are slightly wider, taller and more roomy, yet shorter and sleeker than their highly praised predecessors.

Other S-Class features include: a more rigid body structure with front and rear subframes, full-front airbags, automatic height-adjusting shoulder belts, improved ABS antilock brakes with more available rear-wheel braking, separate automatic climate control for each side of the car and soft-close power door latches.

The new cars — as well as four other models for 1992 — pioneer the use of a air conditioning refrigerant which is free of chlorofluorocarbons, compounds harmful to the earth's protective ozone layer.

In addition to a number of interior and exterior color updates, all 1992 Mercedes-Benz models come with a smaller diameter steering wheel — incorporating a more compact inflator for the standard driver-side airbag — as well as a three-way AM/FM cellular antenna and integrated prewiring for a car phone.

Other Mercedes-Benz models that driving enthusiasts can look forward to include: the Sportline version of the 190E2.6 and 300E sport sedans and the 300CE coupe; a version of the traditional North American mid-size luxury car; and a new generation of SL coupe/roadsters, to name a few.

Mercedes-Benz Canada is located at 849 Eglinton Ave. East.

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